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## BIRTH.

On the 15th inst., at No. 2, Belilios Terrace, the wife of Capt. J. F. MESSER, of a son. [467]

## MARRIAGE.

MORPHEW-LAWRENCE—On the 23rd inst., at St. Joseph's Church, Hongkong, GEORGE MORPHEW, of Canton, to JOSEPHINE EMILY, third daughter of JOSEPH LAWRENCE, of Hongkong. [513]

## DEATHS.

WERNER KROHN, of Messrs. Siemssen & Krohn, Foochow, accidentally drowned on the 4th inst. [512]

On the 15th February, 1897, at Wallingford, Berks, RUTH ALICE, daughter of Sir JOHN W. and Lady CARRINGTON, aged 12 years and 10 months. [468]

At No. 50, Tsukiji, Tokyo, on the 10th instant, HENRY HARTSHORNE, M.D., LL.D., of Philadelphia, U.S.A.

On the 10th February, Rev. JAMES M. McCauley, D.D., at Tokyo.

At 5, Minghong Road, Shanghai, on the 13th February, 1897, CHARLES P. M. DONALDSON, aged 49 years.

At 5, Minghong Road, Shanghai, on the 13th February, 1897, CHARLES DONALDSON (late of Hall and Holtz, Limited), aged 49 years.

## ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 23rd January arrived, per P. M. steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, on the 16th February (26 days); the French mail of the 17th January arrived, per M. M. steamer *Melbourne*, on the 19th February (33 days); the English mail of the 22nd January arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Kaiser-i-Hind*, on the 21st February (30 days); and the Canadian mail of the 1st February arrived, per C. P. steamer *Empress of India*, on the 23rd February (22 days).

## EPITOME OF THE WEEK

The Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club are giving a series of performances of "Les Cloches de Corneville." The production is a conspicuous success alike regards the music, the acting, and the staging.

The Hongkong Race Meeting was held on the 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th February.

A number of matting-makers at Ningpo are reported to be seeking permission to import mat-making machinery.

The liquidators of the Singapore Insurance Company have decided to declare a third dividend of \$1.50 payable on March 15th.

The operations against the Philippine rebels in Cavite province have at last been commenced. A fierce resistance is being encountered.

The Japanese Foreign Office has been notified by the U.S. Minister to Japan that Mr. James W. Davidson has been appointed U.S. Acting Consul at Tamsui, Formosa.

We are glad to hear from Peking that social harmony is completely restored in diplomatic circles there, the members of the French and Russian legations who resigned some time since having rejoined the Peking Club.—*N. C. Daily News.*

It is stated that the Chinese authorities have suggested to the Customs Service that it would be advisable to exercise similar supervision at Woosung over the junks that leave for southern ports as is done in Hongkong to prevent the illegal export of arms to the South.—*China Gazette.*

It is said that Colonel Waters, the military attaché to the Embassy in St. Petersburg, who is on his way to Vladivostok, will meet one of the officials of the British Legation in Peking, and the two will frame a joint report on the Siberian and Russo-Chinese Railways.—*Mercury.*

Miss Jacob, who was accused by Mr. Lowder of the murder of the late Mr. Carew, was discharged on the 5th February. Mr. Lowder made a formal withdrawal of the charge, but did not accompany the withdrawal with any expression of regret. Some days later he sent to Miss Jacob a written apology.

Hankow despatches state that Governor Liao of that city has reported favourably to the Throne on the proposed local railway of ten miles which a syndicate of Hangchow gentry and wealthy merchants has offered to build this year at an expense of \$500,000, and that the Emperor's Rescript is expected to arrive from Peking this week. It is said that, as Director-General of Railways, H.E. Sheng memorialised conjointly with Governor Liao in the matter from which it appears that all such undertakings, no matter in what part of the country, will have to receive the stamp of H.E. Sheng's approval before they can have any chance of success.—*N. C. Daily News.*

The *China Gazette* says:—We understand that negotiations between Governor-General Polavieja, acting under special authority from the Queen Regent of Spain, and the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation for a loan of ten million dollars to the Philippine Government upon the security of the revenue of the three Custom houses at Manila, Iloilo, and Cebu, are now in a very forward state, and only await certain formalities to be entirely complete. We believe the interest is to be 5½ per cent. and that Mexican dollars bearing dates subsequent to 1876—the latter dollars are the only Mexicans now admitted into the country—will be allowed to be imported into Manila, by which arrangement the bank will make a very large profit, if the loan is successfully concluded.

H.E. M. Doumer, the new Governor-General of French Indo-China, accompanied by Madame Doumer and their three children, and attended by a staff composed of Messrs. Faure, Hots, Sargues, Eymery, and About, Commandant Nicolas, Captain Lacotte, and Lieutenant Dubosc, arrived at Saigon from Marseilles by the M.M. steamer *Melbourne*.

A Tokyo press despatch of the 14th February says:—It is expected that a Bill will be submitted by the Government to the House of Representatives on the 1st March next, in which it is proposed to stop the coinage of silver after a certain date. Preparations for carrying the change into effect will be completed in six months. The amount of gold to be kept as a reserve is estimated at a hundred and fifty million yen.

Mr. G. D. Pitzipios, of the British Consular Service, is to be transferred from Shanghai to Chinkiang to take over charge of the Consulate there from Mr. W. R. Carles, who is under orders to relieve Mr. Clement F. R. Allen at Foochow. The latter gentleman is proceeding to England on leave of absence. It is rumoured that Mr. Mansfield is to succeed Mr. Bullock in the post of Acting-Consul at Shanghai, pending Mr. George Jamieson's return to Shanghai.

The Macao census commission has published its report. From a summary given by the *Echo Macaense* we learn that on the 18th February last the population of Macao, Taipa, and Colowan consisted of 3,898 Portuguese, 161 foreigners, and 74,568 Chinese, giving a grand total of 78,627. Comparing these figures with those of the census of 1878, which showed a population of 68,086, composed of 4,476 Portuguese, 63,532 Chinese, and 78 foreigners, it will be seen that the total population has increased by 10,541 during the eighteen years, but that the Portuguese population has diminished by 578, while the Chinese have increased by 11,036 and foreigners by 83. The Portuguese population is divided as follows:—Natives of Portugal 619, of Macao 3,106, of other Portuguese possessions 173. Comparing these figures with those of 1878 there is a diminution of 116 in the natives of Portugal, a decrease of 496 in the natives of Macao, and an increase of 84 in the natives of other Portuguese colonies.

The prospectus has been issued of the Nagasaki Hotel, Limited, a Public Company, to be registered in Hongkong with a capital of \$130,000 in shares of \$100 each. The directors are Messrs. F. Ringer, J. G. Stone, Mr. Ginzburg, D. Robertson, and Dr. M. E. Paul. Messrs. Holme, Ringer & Co. acting as Secretaries *pro tem*. \$80,000 of the capital has already been guaranteed at Nagasaki, so that the sum available for subscription in other ports will not exceed \$50,000. The prospectus sets out the advantages of Nagasaki as a summer resort which are held to be superior to those of Chefoo, and the need for increased hotel accommodation, the existing hotels being able to provide sleeping accommodation for hardly more than thirty persons in all. The increasing importance of Vladivostok is also referred to, Nagasaki being a favourite winter resort for residents at that port, and mention is also made of the changes likely to be produced by the approaching completion of the Siberian railway.



### THE OPENING OF THE WEST RIVER.

It is with much satisfaction that we are to-day enabled to announce the early opening of the West River. The agreement has at last been signed and is to come into operation on the 1st June next. It is now nearly a year since it was officially stated that the river was to be opened, but that the actual opening was to await the conclusion of an agreement with reference to the Yunnan frontier. Presumably that is the agreement that has now been arrived at, and when its terms are made public it may perhaps be found that other matters of interest to Hongkong, as well as the opening of the West River, have been satisfactorily settled. We hope that such may be the case, but we are for the moment concerned only with the West River. Full particulars of the agreement are not yet to hand, but it is known that Wuchow and another port, probably Shuihing, are to be opened to foreign trade and that four other places are to be ports of call. As is well known, suitable steamers are held in readiness for the trade and will be placed on the run as soon as the formal opening is announced. Perhaps the traffic may not assume large proportions with a rush, but ultimately a large increase of trade is inevitable, more especially now that goods arriving at the head of steam navigation can be sent further inland under the protection of transit passes. The opening up of this new field will contribute largely to the prosperity of Hongkong and the event is one on which we may all congratulate ourselves.

### THE PROPOSED NEW ADMIRALTY DOCK.

The taxpayers of Great Britain perhaps even more than the shareholders of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company will have reason for congratulation if an arrangement be come to between that Company and the Admiralty for the provision of the increased docking accommodation required by the Navy in these waters. With such a splendid establishment as that already maintained by the Dock Company at Kowloon, which is capable of being extended at comparatively small cost, it would be a waste of public money for the Admiralty to enter on the construction of a dock of their own on a new site. The theoretical considerations arising from the supposition that an enemy's ships might possibly throw shells over the Peak which might strike the Kowloon dock, whereas they would be less likely to drop in a dock on this side of the harbour, seem scarcely worthy of serious attention, for if the enemy were strong enough on the sea to carry on a bombardment at their leisure and shell Kowloon over the Peak it may be assumed it would not be very long before they succeeded in effecting a landing in force, and, moreover, by the time the suggested new dock in front of the Naval Yard could be completed it is not unlikely that improvements in guns may have been effected which would allow of shells being directed against it as readily as if it were directed against Kowloon. The danger in either case appears to us largely imaginary, but assuming it to be real the way to meet it is to fortify the south side of the island so as to keep hostile ships at a safe distance. This is already recognized, in effect though perhaps not officially, as necessary for the purpose of preventing an enemy landing

in force. At all events, the increased protection, if any, that a dock on this side of the harbour, in front of the Naval Yard, might enjoy over the Kowloon Docks, does not appear from a practical point of view worth the difference in the cost, which might be more profitably spent in other directions.

As to the shareholders of the Dock Company congratulating themselves, it was some years before they had any reason to congratulate themselves on the construction of the present Admiralty Dock, and if they may do so now it is due in only a very minor degree to the work given by the British Admiralty. The dock has at length proved profitable, but it is owing principally to the increased demand for docking accommodation by the mercantile marine. For some time after its construction, however, it was a heavy burden on the resources of the Company, and, in view of the remarks made at the meeting yesterday by Mr. WHEELER, it may be interesting to note the views entertained at the time, not only by many private shareholders, but also by the directors. At the half-yearly meeting held on the 26th August, 1889, Mr. J. D. HUMPHREYS opposed a recommendation made in the report that the sum of \$100,000 should be written off the cost of the Admiralty Dock, and the then chairman, Mr. POESNECKER, said that the dock, which had cost over \$900,000, was thought by the directors to be worth about \$300,000. The dock had at that time been open eighteen months and five ships had been docked in it, but they were not sufficient to cover the working expenses, for the chairman said the dock had been earning nothing and that he was certain it would add very little to the revenue for some time to come, the other docks being quite capable of doing all the Company's business. If a new Admiralty Dock were built by the Dock Company now the same experience would in all probability be repeated and it would be several years before the investment began to yield a return. If the Admiralty want a new dock, therefore, it is reasonable that they should contribute to the cost in a larger proportion than on the last occasion. This is only fair to the shareholders and it would certainly pay the Government much better than going to the expense of constructing a dock of their own. Up to the present the parties have been unable to come to terms, but the case is eminently one for equitable arrangement and it is to be hoped the renewed negotiations may have a successful issue.

### CHINESE CONSULS AND IRREGULAR TAXATION.

The letter addressed by Mr. HUANG CHUN-HSIEN to Sir CECIL C. SMITH, and reproduced in another column, ought to serve as a solemn warning to the British Government against ever permitting the appointment of a Chinese Consul in this colony. It has been deemed that Singapore being situated at some distance from China, the appointment of a Chinese Consul there was unobjectionable, if not indeed advisable. Even there, however, we find the Consulate being used as an agency for the collection of revenue by irregular means. How much greater therefore would be the danger of similar occurrences in Hongkong, which is in immediate contiguity to the province of Kwangtung and where the Chinese population has such intimate connection by family ties with the mainland. Mr. HUANG's intentions may have been good

according to his lights, but his lights are not such as English policy can approve. It appears from Mr. HUANG's letter that some four years ago the Chinese Government solicited the co-operation of the Straits Settlements Government in the prevention of opium smuggling from Singapore by junks to Hainan. Interviews took place between the Consul and the Governor, and according to Mr. HUANG's letter Sir CECIL SMITH, after stating that it was impossible to enforce the proposed regulations and that the Inspector-General had been fully advised to that effect, told the Consul three days later that "the Inspector-General still wired begging that a trial should be made, and that since it would be awkward to refuse, said that the new regulations might be tried experimentally." These regulations, which prevented fifty or sixty junks with over a thousand men leaving the port, were admittedly illegal, but a compromise arrangement had been arrived at by which the merchants agreed to pay to the Consul \$40 per chest as a guarantee for payment of the duty on the opium they carried. According to Mr. HUANG, he then had another interview with the Governor, when His Excellency remarked that "since the merchants asked this to be done with their own free will there was nothing in it that did not conform with English law." Mr. HUANG adds: "As there was no despatch sent me on these subjects I could not notify the Colonial Secretary of the same, and I am not aware whether or not your Excellency has noted our conversation in your register." If this account be correct it seems an extraordinary way of doing business and is hardly credible that such a safe and capable official as Sir CECIL SMITH should have allowed an important agreement involving questions with a foreign Power to be arrived at except by official correspondence in due form. Mr. HUANG, however, appeals to Sir CECIL SMITH's recollection of the circumstances and in effect, though not directly, asks that gentleman for a reply that shall dispose of the reports that have led the German Government to refuse to accept his appointment as Minister to that Court. He says the tax was not, as represented, a compulsory one, and that from beginning to end the money has never been in his own hands, having been deposited to await instructions. All this may be so, and the odium which has fallen on Mr. HUANG may be unjustified by any personal delinquency on his part, but the circumstances unmistakably point to the inconvenience of allowing Chinese Consuls in British colonies where there is any possibility of irregular taxation being levied. Mr. HUANG's letter leaves a good deal unexplained and for the clearing up of the whole matter we must await Sir CECIL SMITH's reply, which will no doubt be published in due course.

### RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION IN CHINA.

We have always been inclined to pessimism in regard to railway development in China. The Imperial Government have sanctioned the construction of various trunk lines and it has been decided to commence certain sections, but it is apparently a matter of indifference when these are completed, and as the Treasury is in a chronic state of impecuniosity there is not much likelihood of any acceleration in the rate at which the work is being prosecuted. The section from Tientsin to Luchow (then Tientsin) is gradually approaching completion, but it will be many months before it is



available for traffic, and the line from thence to Hankow will not, we imagine, even under the most favourable conditions, be in running order for years to come, while the extension southward to Canton must remain a project far into the next century unless some equally radical and unexpected change in the system of Government takes place. A Shanghai contemporary publishes a telegraphic despatch from Hankow announcing that the Imperial Railway Board which has undertaken the construction of the Hankow-Luchekao section has taken over the Tientsin, Shanhai-kwan, and Peking lines from the 1st February under powers granted in an Imperial Decree. By this amalgamation SHENG, the notorious ex-factor who is Director of the Board, obtains control over all the Chinese railways—such as they are—and of all those to be constructed in the northern half of the Empire. He will therefore, it is added, be in a position to raise the required capital by giving the existing lines as part security for the construction of the trunk railway to Hankow. But though SHENG is undoubtedly clever, his ability has hitherto been most conspicuously manifested in the notable manner in which he has managed to line his own pockets, and we doubt very strongly whether his connection with—much less his direction of—the Chinese railways will in any measure tend to impart confidence in those from whom the necessary funds are sought. There can hardly be a doubt that a railway system developed under the direction of Chinese officials must either be wretchedly constructed or built at a most ruinous cost. Under SHENG's auspices the chances are that the work will spread over half a lifetime. The Chinese people will certainly decline to subscribe to the work, if officials like SHENG are to have the handling of the money, for they know perfectly well that they will never see any return for their money under those circumstances. The only hope for the Chinese railways is that the Imperial Government may in the course of years grow tired of the delays and the expense, or that the desirability of having a system of railways may be brought home to them by some great disaster, and that they will then entrust the work to foreign capitalists. They have entrusted the collection of the maritime customs to foreigners with the most signal benefit to the Imperial Exchequer; they have now confided the elaboration of a postal system to foreign management; and they may possibly, after some bitter experiences, decide to hand over the construction and working of their railway system to foreigners. It is quite possible that the expedition with which the Russo-Chinese line through Manchuria will be constructed as compared with SHENG's work may prove an object lesson for the slow-moving mandarins at Peking, and rouse them from their customary lethargy. It will, however, require some shock to wake up the torpid inmates of the Tsungli Yamen.

The Spanish Minister in Peking, having asked the Chinese Government to issue strict injunctions regarding the private exportation of arms, gunpowder, and other warlike implements to the Philippines, the Viceroy, for the southern provinces have been ordered by an Imperial decree from Peking to prohibit the secret export of munitions of war to the coast and southern ports, more especially to Manila. Nonetheless a Shanghai firm has got away at least one ship laden with arms destined for Manila and has been vainly trying for some two months past to despatch another. *China Gazette.*

### MR. LOWDER AND MISS JACOB.

If Mr. LOWDER's preferring a charge of murder against Miss JACOB appeared extraordinary the manner in which he has withdrawn the charge is still more so. When the charge was made in the first instance the mystery of an intricate murder case was being unravelled. Mr. LOWDER, who was acting as counsel for the person subsequently proved to be the murderess, set up the defence, which was practically abandoned before the close of the trial, that the crime had been committed by another. The defence, though unusual, is not unprecedented, and we believe there are cases on record in which it has succeeded, but it is generally recognised as a hazardous line to adopt. What is unprecedented, however, if we are not much mistaken, is that counsel setting up such a defence should go out of his way to lay an information in his own name against the party on whom he seeks to throw the guilt. His business is to secure the acquittal of his client, if he can, and leave the law to be set in motion by the responsible officers as regards any other parties who may be supposed to be implicated. Mr. LOWDER, however, lodged an information "as a member of the community," to use his own words, against Miss JACOB. Had he not been engaged in the defence of Mrs. CAREW we may take it for granted that he would not have felt called upon to interfere in the matter, and that it was his professional connection with the case that stirred his interest "as a member of the community" to such an extent as to induce him to make a formal charge against Miss JACOB. In the discussion that ensued on his application for the withdrawal of the charge he repudiated the suggestion that the charge when made was false to his knowledge. That repudiation must of course be accepted unreservedly in so far as it means that Mr. LOWDER at the time was not convinced in his own mind that there was no possibility of Miss JACOB being proved guilty; but on the other hand he had no evidence in support of the charge that could have satisfied any impartial man as reasonable and probable; he acted, apparently, merely on a theory that he was endeavouring to elaborate for the defence of another party accused. That he believed in his theory as a theory there is no occasion to doubt, but a theory is a very different thing from proof and in itself affords no justification for such a serious step as the bringing of a criminal charge.

Taking, however, the most favourable view of Mr. LOWDER's conduct, and setting down his action in bringing the charge against Miss JACOB as simply an unfortunate mistake, what is to be said of his attitude towards the unfortunate victim of his mistake when he was compelled to withdraw the charge against her? If the charge was not false to his knowledge at the time it was preferred it had certainly become false to his knowledge during the trial of Mrs. CAREW. The verdict against the latter was founded on the strongest possible evidence, of a circumstantial nature, but even if it be assumed for the sake of argument that it was erroneous there could still be no possible ground for entertaining the shadow of a suspicion that Miss JACOB was responsible for the death of the late Mr. CAREW. Either murder was committed by Mrs. CAREW, as has been proved to the satisfaction of a jury, or it was a case of death through misadventure or suicide. The charge against Miss JACOB was therefore false to Mr. LOWDER's knowledge at the time he was compelled to withdraw it. It was withdrawn, however,

to use Mr. SCIDMORE's words, "coldly, formally, and without one word of regret." Not only that, but Mr. LOWDER's actual words might even be taken to indicate a desire to leave a stigma of suspicion attaching to Miss JACOB. Having stated that he had arrived at the decision to withdraw the charge in consequence of the withdrawal of his evidence by one witness and the failure of another under cross-examination, thus leaving him with the statements of two Japanese maid-servants only, who turned out to be cousins, and who were in the pay of Mrs. CAREW, to establish a point which he considered of vital importance to the success of the prosecution, namely, that the relations that had existed between the accused and the deceased were such as to make it probable that she knew of ANNIE LUKE, he added:—"By the weakening of that link the chain of evidence connecting the accused with the charge became so attenuated that I determined to proceed no farther with it." Attenuated indeed! The term necessarily means that the evidence, though too thin for strict legal proof, still exists and is strong enough to carry suspicion. It was Mr. LOWDER's duty as a man of honour to have withdrawn the charge wholly and unreservedly. He might have made what explanation he thought fit as to his reasons for bringing the charge in the first instance, but in withdrawing it he was morally called upon to declare that he now recognised it to be entirely unfounded, not merely that the evidence in support of it was attenuated. Further, any man of right feeling would, we think, have expressed regret for the suffering and injury his mistake had caused. The *Japan Gazette* suggests that in view of rumours which of late have been freely circulated of a possible action for damages by Miss JACOB Mr. LOWDER felt that it would be wise not to go beyond the mere withdrawal and to avoid anything which savoured of an apology for what he deemed a right and proper act. Our contemporary says that even then it was bad policy, an opinion in which we entirely concur. We regard it indeed as a much more serious matter than a question of policy, for Mr. LOWDER has placed himself in the wrong on one of the most elementary principles of ethics. It may be that while observing an excessive caution in open court Mr. LOWDER has some scheme in his own mind for making reparation to the victim of his mistake; we hope it may be so; but nothing can excuse his neglect to make the fullest possible retraction of the charge at the earliest possible moment.

There is a good deal in the proceedings against Miss JACOB, apart from Mr. LOWDER's share in them, that is open to adverse comment. To quote the *Japan Gazette*:—"The Order in Council states that 'where the urgency of the case requires' a warrant may be issued and 'executed on a Sunday' but if there was 'any such urgency' for arresting Miss JACOB on that day and compelling her to spend an evening and a night in prison, it does not appear from the evidence that Miss JACOB was not likely to run away, or to commit suicide, and if she had been arrested on some day not a Sunday the ignominy of a night in a goal might have been spared her. Compared with the consideration Mrs. CAREW received such action seems particularly harsh. Then again Mrs. CAREW's boxes were not seized at any rate not at first, which was not only to Miss JACOB's effect but to her



box was handed over to Mr. LOWDER to inspect out of Court. It is difficult to account for that proceeding, but the least intelligent need no light from a brilliant intellect to understand that it was not justifiable. Mr. TROUP spoke of its being a misunderstanding, which it probably was, but it was a misunderstanding which the Consular officials ought to have been especially careful to avoid. The manner of the withdrawal of the charge also showed little magnanimity. We must assume that when Mr. TROUP issued the warrant on Sunday he was convinced that the urgency of the case required it, and it is equally fair to assume that Mr. LOWDER felt certain of the truth of the accusation he made. But when the case had collapsed and after Miss JACOB had been subjected to intense mental strain and had suffered the physical indignity of imprisonment, it is matter for surprise that neither Mr. LOWDER, who laid the charge, nor Mr. TROUP who issued the warrant, had a single merciful word to say, not a kindly expression of feeling to utter to the girl who had been charged with murder and accused of being unchaste, and yet against whom no evidence was forthcoming. After alluding to the reasons that may have weighed with Mr. LOWDER our contemporary proceeds:—"In any case Mr. TROUP was in no such predicament and he might well have spoken a word or two of sympathy with one who had undergone so terrible an ordeal, though it is only right to add that as Consul he has performed a very thoughtful act in granting the certificate a copy of which we have published." It must have occurred to Mr. TROUP on reflection that Miss JACOB had not been fairly treated in court either by himself or Mr. LOWDER. His own sympathy seemed to be entirely with the latter, who if he was placed in an unpleasant position had only himself to thank for it, while to Miss JACOB, a victim of injustice, he had not a word of sympathy to express. On the other hand, although Mr. LOWDER had mentioned that Miss JACOB might bring an action for malicious prosecution, and although there had been rumours that she intended to do so, Mr. TROUP went out of his way to prejudge any possible action of that kind by making a quite uncalled for declaration that he was satisfied that Mr. LOWDER at the time he made the charge was convinced of its truth. He thought it right and proper to give a certificate of character to Mr. LOWDER, who was very well able to protect himself, and who was in the wrong, while Miss JACOB, the sufferer by that wrong, was allowed to leave the court without any declaration being made in her favour. Mr. TROUP's after thought of issuing a certificate, whether it originated with himself or was suggested to him, was certainly a fortunate one and to some extent made amends for the harshness of the proceedings in court. Having regard to the character of the entire case, however, and to the specific irregularities mentioned in the extract from the *Japan Gazette* quoted above, the parties more immediately responsible may be congratulated on the fact that the affair took place in Yokohama instead of in England, for if England had been the scene of such outrageous proceedings in the name of justice the storm of popular indignation that would have been raised would have entailed disagreeable consequences. From Yokohama papers received since the above was in type we learn that some days after the discharge of Miss Jacob Mr. Lowder rendered a formal apology to her.

### FRENCH COLONIAL ADMINISTRATION.

If the English people were really as unfriendly to and as jealous of the expansion of French colonies as some rabid Anglophobe French journals insist is the case, they would hail with delight the mistakes made in Indo-China instead of regretting the blindness that dictates them. The British Press would moreover cease to criticise these mistakes, and calmly leave their Gallic neighbours to flounder as they might in the difficulties of their own creation. Probably the French Press will retort, "Save, oh save us from the candid friend," and intimate that they have no faith in the sincerity of Anglo-Saxon criticism. Whether that is their misfortune and our fault may be questioned. Perhaps we are also only too ready in our turn to question the *bona fides* of advice offered to us by foreign critics. Doubtless our conceit is equal to their vanity. But however that may be, we confidently assert there is not on the British side the rancour or the persistent determination to attribute bad motives that so commonly distinguishes and pervades nearly all French criticism or comment on British political or other action. We have our insular prejudices, and they are often unfounded, sometimes unreasonable, and not seldom ludicrous. Occasionally we distrust and apprehend sinister motives where none exist, but, *humanum est errare*, and while the world lasts this will be the case. What we do not do is to be ever on the watch to carp and cavil, and exclaim "perfidious France!" Nor have we the desire attributed to us to greedily devour the universe. On the contrary, the British Government have frequently declined to increase their responsibilities, and have on many occasions been driven to annexations by sheer force of circumstances. This truth will be admitted and shown by any veracious historian of the British Empire. Live and let live is a motto Great Britain has always acted upon. She has not acquired markets for her own sole advantage; she has ever been willing to afford to the traders of other countries the facilities given to British subjects, and made them welcome to her colonies. This liberal policy has not so far given cause for regret. The benefits conferred have in many cases brought a return, indirect in some cases, but still often substantial, and this policy will not lightly be reversed or abandoned. Our French neighbours have seen British Colonies thrive, and, not being deficient in acuteness, ought to have profited by our experience. But though French merchants and traders have recognised the wisdom of our liberal tariffs and the encouragement given to traders of other nationalities, French officials appear incapable of grasping the broad fact that heavy tariffs must restrict trade and arrest the growth of a country or port. After witnessing what British free trade has done for the Straits Settlements and Hongkong, the French Government has nevertheless done its best to destroy trade in Indo-China by tariffs selfishly designed to preserve the market for French goods, but which have only had the effect of checking the growth of the colony and restricting the revenue to such an extent as to necessitate large votes from the French exchequer. As if this fiscal error were not sufficient to handicap a country possessed of resources that ought to easily render it not only self-supporting but even remunerative, the Government are now bent on harassing the Chinese residents to an extent that threatens

to greatly restrict their influx. The Chinese are undoubtedly more restive and troublesome to govern than the Annamites and Tonkinese, but they are much more valuable both as traders and labourers, and it is a suicidal policy to attempt to exclude them. The imposition of a poll tax of \$10 per head per annum was perhaps excusable, since there is already a considerable native population that must be employed. But when in order to make up the deficit in the revenue the Indo-Chinese Colonial Council raise this tax to \$13, they certainly are guilty of an error in judgment. The Chinese are up in arms against the increase, not probably so much on account of its actual amount, but because they have no security that it will not be augmented next year to \$15, presently to \$20, and, possibly, to an eventual \$50 tax. It would reassure the Chinese to know that this tax, like the British income tax, is not to be regarded as an elastic one easily collected, which may be stretched to meet any deficit in any direction. One branch in which a reduction in revenue has taken place—namely, the Customs—points pretty plainly to another error. It is little good securing the market for French goods if they do not suit local wants, for the result is only a loss of revenue without any corresponding advantage. It is a great pity the Indo-Chinese officials will not recognise these facts and, by a more liberal fiscal policy, endeavour to attract the trade that they are now forcing into other channels. Of what use will be the Langson Railway and the attempts now being made to build up a frontier trade with Kwangsi and Yunnan, if both are to be rendered abortive by excessive taxation of goods in transit? Our French friends are apparently always hankering after fresh territory and new markets; it would be more to the purpose if they would go steadily to work to develop those already in their hands.

### SUPREME COURT.

22nd February.

IN CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

(BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH, PUISNE JUDGE.)

#### NOT GUILTY.

Wong Kung was charged with demanding a sum of \$100 by means of menaces on the 22nd January.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. Wilkinson), appeared on behalf of the prosecution; Mr. E. Robinson (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the defence.

The following jurors were empanelled—Messrs. C. F. Grossman, H. Crombie, P. J. Rees, J. G. dos Remedios, C. Georg, E. S. Joseph, and J. A. de Carvalho.

The Court overruled an objection by the prisoner, who wished to be tried solely by Englishmen and not by any Portuguese residents.

The prisoner was found not guilty and was discharged.

The poor Shanghaiander periodically finds his income gradually lessened by fresh demands upon his purse. House owners seem to have adopted the motto "Excelsior" in the matter of rents and the occupier has to dive into his money bag to satisfy the demand and also pay more taxes. Silver, in opposition to the house owner's motto, keeps on sinking and is only worth something like 860 cash to the dollar at the time we shall be writing at a discount. Now the butchers have come forward and giving a pitiful tale, inform their customers that meat has gone up two cents a pound, which is enough to make one's vegetable and live on carriage and other horse food. —*Udon*



# "LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE" BY THE A.D.C.

The Amateur Dramatic Club have this year ventured on rather an ambitious effort, having selected "Les Cloches de Corneville" for presentation. There are comparatively few people who have not seen this lively and charming comic opera performed over and over again by professionals of more or less competence, and amateurs who essay to perform it have therefore to face criticism of a different order from that to be expected in pantomime or broad farce, which depend for their success on scenic effect and topical allusions. "Les Cloches de Corneville" is a master piece of its kind, requiring good acting and good singing, and with which only very small liberties can be taken in the way of innovation without marring it. The Amateur Dramatic Club have for months past been rehearsing the piece most assiduously, we might almost say heroically, for the demands it has made on their time for afternoon and evening practices have been so great as to make all other engagements almost impossible. The first public performance was given on Saturday evening and was a very creditable one, though it would be mere affectation to say that it does not allow very large room for criticism. We had not the pleasure of witnessing the dress rehearsal, but we are given to understand that Saturday evening's performance was a considerable improvement upon it, and with the additional experience now gained we look for a further improvement at this evening's and subsequent performances. To begin with, the piece is too long. On Saturday it was ten minutes past twelve when the curtain dropped, which residents at the Peak and Kowloon find rather too late to be agreeable. As it was, the pruning knife had been applied rather freely, but unfortunately at the end of the piece, where it interfered with the development of the plot and meant the sacrifice of some pretty music, instead of in less vital parts. We would suggest that it would be better to abbreviate the second act, and especially some of Gaspard's business; not that Mr. Frowd was not successful in the part, but still, to see an old man slowly crawling round the stage to light a number of candles and then slowly crawling round to blow them out again is not calculated to rivet the attention of the audience. The dances, too, especially the one at the beginning of the third act, though extremely pretty, were not part of the play and they delay the action. It would be almost a pity to sacrifice them now, after so much time and attention have been expended on their rehearsal, but if dancing was desired it would perhaps have been better to have selected a different piece. It was at all events the universal verdict on Saturday night that the performance was too long drawn out, and of course the dancing contributed to produce that effect. Amongst minor points inviting criticism it may also be mentioned that in the second act the darkness supposed to prevail during a part of the time was carried to a rather too realistic extreme, for although the action is laid in a dark room the audience naturally desire to see what is going on.

The music was on the whole excellent, except that the chorus got a little astray on one or two occasions. Of the mounting of the piece we can hardly speak too highly, though even here there is one little defect to be noted, very trifling in itself, but the remedying of which will improve the general effect. The dresses and situations were all designed and arranged most artistically, with the exception that Gertrude had for some reason been condemned to wear an absurdly burlesque wig which spoiled the harmony of pictures in which simple prettiness was the effect to be aimed at so far as the female characters were concerned. The scenery was splendid and Mr. Buzzard and his staff must be congratulated most heartily on their work.

A printed notice was placed in the seats requesting that, owing to the length of the piece, none of the songs or dances might be encored. Whether this damped the ardour of the audience at the outset and prevented the enthusiasm working up to the proper pitch, or whether it was that the piece as a

whole, good as it was, failed to answer the high expectations that had been formed, the fact is worthy of note that there was no demand for a second view of the final tableau, nor were the principals, the stage manager, or the scenic artist called before the curtain, an almost unprecedented omission for a Hongkong audience at an amateur performance.

The cast was as follows:—

Serpolette (a wait)	... Mrs. D. E. Brown.
Germaine	... Mrs. E. W. Mitchell.
Manette	... Mrs. Brewitt.
Gertrude	... Mrs. Francis Clark.
Marguerite	... Miss Humphreys.
Jeanne	... Miss Mast.
The Marquis de Corneville	... Mr. G. P. Lammert.
Gaspard (a miser)	... Mr. W. S. Frowd, R.N.
The Bailie	... Mr. C. H. Grace.
Grenicheux	... Mr. D. K. Sliman.
Gobo (the Bailie's shadow)	... Mr. G. Caldwell.
Clerk	... Mr. G. Grimble.
Christophe (a cadet)	... Mr. Eric Grant Smith.
Eugene	... Mr. Sawyer, R.N.
Scipion	... Mr. E. Hill.

Peasants, Fishwives, &c.—Messdames Aitken, Bain, Clement, M. Clement, Eitel, Grimble, Hazeland, Holmes, Lammert, Mancell, H. Mast, Seth, and Skertchley.

Fishermen, Sailors, Gardeners, Coachmen, &c.—Messrs. Armstrong, Arthur, Brewitt, Chapman, Crispin, Duncan, Eitel, Gilchrist, Grimble, G. C. Hayward, S. W. Hayward, E. Hazeland, E. Hill, Humphreys, Holmes, Jesumann, R. F. Lammert, Th. Lammert, E. W. Maitland, Measor, Mirow, Rooke, Sayer, Shepherd, Eric Smith, R. Witchell, J. Witchell.

The scenery painted by the staff of the late Mr. M. A. Baptista, from sketches and designs by Lieut. Buzzard, R. A. The Dances arranged by Mr. George Caldwell.

Musical Director	... Mr. A. G. Ward.
Acting Manager	... Dr. Francis Clark.
Stage Manager	... Mr. E. W. Mitchell.

## ORCHESTRA.

Pianist	... Mr. Ormiston.
1st Violins	... Messrs. C. Schwencke, Bottenheim, and Sydney
2nd Violins	... Messrs. Houben and Ruchwaldy.
1st Clarinet	... Mr. A. Cumming.
1st Horn	... Mr. H. S. Cooke.
and by kind permission of Colonel Gordon and the Officers of the West Yorkshire Regiment,	
Flute	... Corporal Harper.
Oboe	... Musician Quaid.
2nd Clarinet	... Corporal Scragg.
Bassoon	... Musician Wheeler.
2nd Horn	... Sergeant Murrell.
Cornets	... Musicians Haley and Henson.
Trombone	... Musician Chatwin.
Drums, etc.	... Musician Taylor.
Volda	... Musician Skilton.
Cello	... Musician Jones.
Bass	... Musician Lyons.

Mrs. Brown made a vivacious *Serpolette*, acting the part with intelligent abandon, while her singing was charming, and it was several times with difficulty that the audience restrained itself from violating the rule as to encores. The couplets, "Marchioness! how astounding!" in the second act, "Though no more plain *Serpolette*" in the third, and the celebrated cider song were especially well rendered and were loudly applauded. A noteworthy feature of Mrs. Brown's singing and was the clearness of her high notes. Mrs. Mitchell was also well suited with the part of *Germaine* and the reappearance on the stage of this lady, who has so often charmed Hongkong audiences, was hailed with much satisfaction, but unfortunately she was suffering from the effects of a recent illness, which had necessitated the postponement of the opening performance from the date originally fixed, and was unable to do herself such complete justice as we are accustomed to expect from her. Her acting, however, was graceful and sympathetic throughout, and in her song "Girls should never say yea or nay" and the subsequent duet with the *Marquis* she was heard almost at her best. Mrs. Brewitt, Mrs. Clark, Miss Humphreys, and Miss Mast filled very gracefully the small parts allotted to them. Mr. G. P. Lammert made quite an ideal *Marquis*, handsome and dashing, and the music was well suited to his robust tenor voice. His song "With joy my heart has often bounded" was splendidly

given and formed one of the features of the evening. In the recitative and air "Silent heroes" he was also heard to great advantage, but it was in this number that the chorus made one of the slips above alluded to. In the difficult part of *Gaspard* Mr. W. S. Frowd, R.N., did well; it is a considerable feat for an amateur to get through the part without making it ridiculous, but Mr. Frowd, if his impersonation cannot be described as powerful, certainly succeeded in conveying a correct idea of the character. The part of the *Bailie* was taken by that experienced and capable actor Mr. Grace, who did full justice to it in every point, both in singing and acting. Mr. D. K. Sliman's performance as *Grenicheux* was more notable for the excellence with which the music was rendered than for realistic acting, though the latter might easily have been worse. The song "On billow rocking" is one of the most pleasing numbers of the opera and Mr. Sliman sang it with perfect taste and feeling. The omission of *Grenicheux's* valse song in the third act was a disappointment. Mr. G. Caldwell as *Gobo* was irresistibly comic, both in make up and acting, and kept the audience laughing as long as he was on the stage. It is not often that a better representation of this character is seen, even when the stage is occupied by professionals, than that which the audience on Saturday night enjoyed. It struck us, however, that the use of a whistle by Mr. Caldwell was a mistake, and that it rather detracted from the humour of the "Salute the Bailie" episode; the actor's own voice without the whistle would have been more effective. Mr. G. Grimble, as the *Clerk*, was got up to represent a luminary of the Supreme Court, and although he had not a great deal to do he was a noticeable and useful figure in the tableaux. A word of praise should also be given to Master E. Grant Smith, who as *Christophe* "shivered his timbers" very audaciously.

The chorus, with the one or two slips above referred to, sang with very fine effect. It had an excellent foundation in the bass and the other parts were well balanced. The bass were particularly heard to advantage in the lines "If you groom or footman need." The tenors in "Who are drivers lacking?" were hardly so good. Amongst the concerted pieces special mention should be made of the sailors' chorus "Let our torches."

In the orchestra it struck us that one of the instruments was occasionally a little out of tune, but with this exception the instrumental music was excellent.

Very great praise is due to Mr. Mitchell, the stage manager, and Mr. Ward, the musical conductor, for their indefatigable labours in the preparation of the piece.

The performance will be repeated to-night, and we shall be surprised if it does not show a considerable improvement over that of Saturday. We hope our introductory remarks will not be construed as damning the piece with faint praise, for the performance is really a noteworthy one which no one should miss seeing, but "Les Cloches de Corneville" is a much more ambitious effort than an ordinary burlesque or even a Gilbert and Sullivan production and it was hardly to be expected that in the first representation complete success should be achieved.

## SECOND PERFORMANCE.

There was again a large attendance at the performance of "Les Cloches de Corneville" by the Amateur Dramatic Club on Monday evening and everyone was well satisfied with the way the piece went, as indeed they had good occasion to be. A great improvement on the first representation was noticeable, as we anticipated would be the case, and we venture to say that nothing better has ever been seen on the amateur stage in Hongkong. Other pieces may have evoked more enthusiastic applause by reason of their novelty, or their amusing local colouring, but judging Monday's performance simply by the quality of the work put into it, both from a dramatic and a musical point of view, we should be inclined to place it first amongst the many successes that the A.D.C. has inscribed on its long roll. The few slips noticed on Saturday night, which, though very serious individually, in the aggregate were treated from the success of the piece.



either entirely absent on Monday or reduced to such a minimum as to become unnoticeable. The piece was altogether brighter and more lively and without any undue haste was got through in twenty-five minutes less time than on Saturday. The scene in the dark room of the chateau was better managed as regards lighting effects and the audience was thereby enabled the better to see and appreciate the admirable acting of Mr. Frowd in this part of the play. The choruses also went almost without a hitch and were rendered with confidence and spirit. The principals as they made their appearance were all greeted with warm applause and throughout the performance the audience gave unmistakable evidence of its appreciation of their efforts. Mrs. Mitchell, we were glad to see, had lost all visible traces of her recent indisposition and came up to the standard we are accustomed to look for in this lady's work on the stage.

A correspondent of our Tientsin contemporary has been writing to remind the critic of that paper of one marked feature in a recent amateur performance in that port.

"I refer," says the correspondent in question, "to the beauty of the English as it was spoken. Our mother-tongue, overlaid as it is with sibilants generally, goes hissing like an angry gander; but it can and does succumb to feminine influence, and in the mouth of a refined, sweet-voiced woman it may become music itself. King Lear in the crisis of his agony tells us

Her voice was soft,  
Gentle and low; an excellent thing in woman.

Surely much of the charm of the comedy on Saturday last was due to the dainty articulation and beautiful rhythm of the ladies' speech. It recalled to one happy memories of the London stage, where *pace Scotorum* we venture to think one hears English at its very best, at least as far as women are concerned."

On reading these remarks yesterday morning we were struck with their peculiar applicability to Mrs. Mitchell and we reproduce them, with thanks to the unknown correspondent for a happy suggestion, with special reference to that lady. Mrs. Mitchell's voice is always musical, whether in speaking or singing, and the clearness of her enunciation allows the audience to follow her almost word for word. On Monday she was warmly applauded for the "Legend of the bells," "At his side," "Girls should never say yes or nay," and her other numbers, and had it not been for the prohibition of encores would have been several times recalled.

Mrs. Brown repeated her magnificent success of Saturday evening and is to be complimented on a most admirable performance which left no room for criticism, unless it be that it is not always easy to follow her words. To Mrs. Brewitt, as *Manette*, we are afraid we scarcely did justice in our first notice and we hasten to repair the omission. The part is not a principal one, but at several points a good deal depends on her, and what she had to do she did gracefully and effectively. Mrs. Brewitt is another lady whose voice possesses the quality of music in speaking as well as in singing. Mrs. Francis Clark as *Gertrude* had discarded the curious coiffure in which she appeared on Saturday night, and she now looked as pretty and charming a character as any stage manager could wish for in his tableaux. Miss Humphreys and Miss Mast also looked well as *Marguerite* and *Jeanne*. Mr. G. P. Lammert received quite an ovation when he appeared and his yalse rondo "With joy my heart has often bounded" called forth such a burst of applause that it was some little time before the piece could proceed. There seemed some wavering as to whether to accede to the encore or not, but the decision not to do so was, we think, a wise one, for a "no encore" rule must either be applied strictly or withdrawn altogether, and to allow encores in "Les Cloches de Corneville," where almost every song would be redemanded, would lengthen out the performance unreasonably; if it is to be lengthened at all it should rather be by restoring some of the numbers that have had to be sacrificed in the cutting down process. Mr. W. S. Frowd, R.N., again gave an excellent representation of *Gaspard*, the

miser, and fully merited the warm applause he received. Mr. Frowd seems to have grasped the character thoroughly, and in his acting displays genuine talent. We were more struck with his performance on Monday than on Saturday, but that is probably to be attributed to the more favourable conditions than to any particular change in Mr. Frowd's playing. Mr. Grace, as the *Bailie*, was loudly applauded for his buffo song, which is another item that the audience would have liked repeated. Mr. G. Caldwell as *Gobo* was if possible more amusing than at the first performance and not one of his humorous hits failed to tell. Mr. Sliman as *Grenicheux*, needless to say, was most successful in his singing, and was free and confident in his acting; but *Grenicheux*, though a sweet singer, is a humbug, a point that Mr. Sliman in his conception of the character seems to grasp rather imperfectly. Mr. G. Grimbale as the *Clerk*, Master E. Grant Smith as *Christophe*, and Messrs. Sawyer, R.N., and E. Hill as *Eugene* and *Scipion* were all effective in their respective parts, and it may truthfully be said that the cast did not contain a weak member. The chorus, as already remarked, was good, and the "Silent Heroes" number, which was rather spoilt on Saturday, was on Monday a great success. At the close of the piece the curtain had to be re-raised on the final tableau.

Mr. A. G. Ward, the musical director, Dr. F. Clark, the acting manager, and Mr. E. W. Mitchell, the stage manager, and indeed all who took part, are to be heartily congratulated on the satisfactory result of their hard work and on having made such good use of the experience gained at the dress rehearsal and the first performance.

## THE PHILIPPINE REBELLION.

### THE ATTACK ON CAVITE PROVINCE.

We have to thank Senor Navarro, the Spanish Consul, for copies of the following telegrams:—  
MANILA, 16th February.

The General-in-Chief communicates the following simultaneous attacks. The squadron feigned to disembark at Naic, with a guerilla force of Naval Volunteers from the Spanish Casino; Bocoor was also bombarded from the batteries of Dalahican; feigned attack on Noveleta; General Lachambre arrived at Santo Domingo with columns from Binang and Calamba advancing towards Silang; General Juramillo took Tranquero fort, near Buymyum, at the point of the bayonet; and found eight dead bodies, our loss in the attack being two dead and five wounded; Colonel Barraquer after hard fighting took Pamplona, on the river Zapote, an entrenched position armed with a number of small guns and defended by 2,000 rebels, and in the pursuit our troops killed hundreds of the latter, our loss being one officer and eighteen soldiers killed, two officers and forty-three soldiers wounded. At the last moment General Juramillo took the fort of Bigay, where he found several small guns and a large quantity of other arms; the rebels left thirty-five dead, our loss being seven dead and two officers and twenty-eight soldiers wounded.

Manila, 19th February.

First part plan realized. Success has favoured the efforts of the army, navy, and the nation. Silang has been taken with very small loss, notwithstanding the great defence made. The Spanish flag was hoisted at 11.30 this morning, amidst cheers and hurrahs for Spain, the military bands playing the Royal Anthem. The enthusiasm among the troops is immense.

### A GENERAL REPORTED KILLED.

A private letter which has been received from Manila states that the rebels captured three guns at the battle of Silang and that the Spanish General who is second in command was killed. The letter also states that the Spanish soldiers are suffering great privations and that they are begging and praying for food.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, (undated).

The news that General Polavieja has actually visited Imus and Cavite has caused a great deal of sensation here. If such is the case the

General must indeed have donned the most impenetrable disguise. The narrative abounds with no end of hairbreadth escapes and other thrilling incidents, with the evident intention of giving piquancy and zest to the escapade. If the General has been striving for theatrical effect he has more than succeeded. He is the hero of the hour. This dilatoriness hitherto displayed by the General in attacking Cavite has been the subject of some severe criticism in the shape of an anonymous placard, which was no sooner posted upon Manila than torn down by the Police. But the General's visit to the enemy's stronghold has reinstated him in public opinion and he is now regarded as activity personified.

A corps of native volunteers is being organised throughout all the loyal provinces and the men are being sent to the front in all haste. The volunteers are enlisted by the friars and liberal promises of free grants of land have been made to them as an inducement. There is not much likelihood of the friars being called upon to make good their promises, as the volunteers are destined to bear the brunt of the coming engagement. General Polavieja is no doubt playing a dangerous game and the ever present contingency of the volunteers joining the rebels *en masse* at a favourable moment must always be reckoned with. However, the General appears to have no choice in the matter. The parsimonious Spanish War Office has not even furnished the General with Maxim guns, which have been proved to be as effectual as heavy artillery in attacking fortifications. The General has therefore to rely solely upon small arms. It is true that he has nearly 30,000 men with him, but the excellent marksmanship displayed by the rebels is sure to tell even against great odds, while on the other hand the firing of the Spaniards is simply wretched. The latest contingents from Spain are composed of men taken fresh from the plough; at any rate, it is painfully evident that they have never handled a gun ere now. Things appear to be about equal between the rebels and the Spaniards and whatever may be the ultimate fate of Imus and Cavite the forthcoming battle is sure to be a most sanguinary one and no quarter will be given or asked by either side. As things stand it will simply be hoping against hope that the most wanton acts of savagery will not be perpetrated by the victor.

Regarding the good marksmanship displayed by the rebels, especially in the engagement at Noveleta, in which all the officers were picked out and put *hors de combat*, I am credibly informed that the officers have petitioned General Polavieja and have obtained his sanction to suppress all outward signs of rank in their uniform whenever they have to go into action. This is indeed original if not unique!

The public retractions purporting to have been made by the condemned men which the Spanish authorities had been so zealous in giving publicity to have all along been regarded with suspicion, some people going so far as to affirm that the documents were obtained by torture. Be this as it may, all doubts must now be set at rest, at least with regard to one of the retractions—I mean the one alleged to have been signed by Dr. Ribal. The unfortunate medico has left a posthumous legacy which has just seen the light of day. It is a brilliant and soul-stirring composition and an appeal to the patriotism of his fellow countrymen it cannot fail to bring about the desired effect. The doctor succeeded in eluding his gaolers by concealing the writing in question inside his boots. It was removed there by the doctor's sister in the presence of several friends just before the remains were consigned to the grave.

The practice observed here in the carrying out of executions is outrageous to a degree, and contrasts very unfavourably with the system in vogue in most civilized countries, where it is the commander of the corps himself who loads and distributes the guns, a proportion of which are loaded with blank cartridges, so that it is never known who actually fires the fatal shot. In this way the morale of the corps is preserved, and with the Spaniards, if the victim should happen to be a military man, it is his comrades who are specially selected to carry out the execution, and if the least hint of a



detected in any of the victims by the doctor—which is almost always the case—another of his quondam comrades at once deputed to give him the *coup de grace* by firing a round into the almost lifeless body. This must indeed have a very demoralising effect on the rank and file. The conduct of the doctor who pushed the body of the victims with his foot in order to detect signs of life should also be recorded here as another instance of brutality. One of the friars who performed the mockery of imparting the last consolations of the Church to the condemned men actually raised the cry of *Viva Espana* immediately after the fall of the victims. Could cynicism be carried to any greater lengths!

If any one in Manila should inadvertently make in his letters the slightest reference to the present troubles he may be almost certain that they will never reach their destination. The Post Office officials must indeed have their hands full if they are obliged to read every letter that passes through the post.

The case of Mr. Collins who was imprisoned for four days on a charge of inciting the present rebellion will still be fresh in the minds of your readers. The case never came to a trial and the United States Vice-Consul claims that he procured Mr. Collins's release after a friendly chat with the powers that be and that not even the exchange of a single despatch was rendered necessary in the settlement of such an important question, involving as it does the life of a citizen of the States. However, the off-hand method of the American Consul in the transaction of business of a purely diplomatic nature does not seem to have commended itself to the Department of State and it is an open secret that the American Government is moving in the matter and that the American Consul has been instructed to fully report upon the incident.

### SUICIDE OF CAPTAIN WARD, R.M.L.I.

#### INQUEST.

On Tuesday morning Commander Hastings held an inquest on the body of Captain John Harry Ward, R.M.L.I. of H.M.S. *Grafton*, who committed suicide on the 22nd inst.

The jurors were—Messrs. R. T. Wright, Charles Atteck, and D. W. Craddock.

Commander Arthur Ewart, of H.M.S. *Grafton*, said—About 1.20 p.m. on the 22nd instant I was in my cabin when I heard a rifle shot on the starboard side of the ship. I was struck by a few splinters of wood and saw that the shot had come through the after bulkhead. I immediately went into the next cabin abaft mine and found that the deceased was severely wounded in the head with a rifle shot. The rifle was lying alongside him. He was bareheaded and one of his legs was bent, and it appeared to me that he had pulled the trigger with his foot. I sent for medical assistance and reported the occurrence to my captain. The deceased was a captain of Marine Light Infantry. He joined the ship in August 1896. He was appointed from *St. Helena*. By the captain's orders I at once closed the door of the cabin and a sentry was posted on duty, and the jury viewed the cabin and body just as they were when I entered. The deceased arrived on board from shore about 11 a.m. on the 22nd and was placed under arrest about a quarter of an hour after. He had gone ashore some time on the previous day. I have reason to believe he was in serious pecuniary difficulties. He had never been under arrest before. When he was absent in the morning I made enquiries and heard that the deceased was seen ashore about 11.20 p.m. on the previous night outside the Hongkong Club. I should say the deceased was not of sober habits. I had never heard of the deceased making any threats of taking his life. I had the deceased's razor placed in evidence yesterday morning after he was arrested. The rifle rack was immediately opposite the cabin door of the deceased. On the 20th inst. the deceased had been in charge of a firing party. Deceased had fifty rounds of ball cartridge in his charge for issuing to the sentries in case of emergency. One round had been used. It

was on the recommendation of Staff Surgeon Crowley that I had the deceased's razors placed in security. I noticed nothing wild about the deceased; on the contrary I thought he was wonderfully steady before the captain. After the visit of the jury Surgeon Crowley and I visited the cabin and decided to secure all the papers. Amongst them was the following letter which is in Captain Ward's handwriting:—

"To the Detachment, Royal Marines, H.M.S. *Grafton*. Good bye all! I am leaving this world through no fault of my own. Good luck to you all.

"J. H. WARD,

"H.M.S. *Grafton*."

"Mind you fire decent volleys over my grave or I shall rise up and extra-parade you!"

Joseph Crowley said—I am Staff Surgeon on H.M.S. *Grafton*. On the 22nd inst., about 1.10 p.m., I was in the wardroom. I heard the report of a rifle. I went to the deceased's cabin. I found him lying on his back and left side on his bed. He had shot himself through the head. He was not dead, but unconscious and dying. The cause of death was compression and laceration of the brain and fracture of the skull and hemorrhage. He died from five to seven minutes after the shot was fired. I had been a shipmate of deceased since last August. About 9.30 a.m. on the 22nd inst. I was sent ashore by Captain Jones to visit the deceased at Surgeon-Captain Watson's house. On examination I found him to be in a condition fit to be removed without danger to his health. I could find no signs of disease; he was practically well. He was excited and nervous, having broken his leave. I accompanied the deceased on board. Directly I arrived on board I spoke to the last witness and advised that the deceased's razors should be removed. I did so because I thought he was in such a state of nervous excitement that he might take his life. Some months ago—I do not remember the date—deceased remarked that if he ever got into trouble he would rather take his life than be tried by court-martial. No attention was paid to this threat at the time. I know nothing about his monetary affairs. I know nothing of the family of the deceased. I am of opinion that the wound was self-inflicted. The rifle was in the hands of the deceased.

The jury returned the following verdict—"Suicide by shooting through the head whilst in a state of mental aberration."

### INDIAN FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

The Honorary Treasurer of the Indian Famine Relief Fund begs to acknowledge receipt of the undernoted subscriptions:—

Already acknowledged	£32,429
Per Chairman Tung Wa Hospital Committee	8,980
Hongkong Land Investment Co., Limited	200
Foreign Staff, Kowloon Customs	120
C. J. Gaupp & Co.	100
Lai Yuen Opium Firm	100
Hon. W. M. Goodman	50
Geo. Fenwick & Co., Ltd.	50
F. Leyburn	50
Dr. P. B. C. Ayres	50
W. Lysaught	50
A Friend	50
E. O. Seaton	25
Sidney Hancock	25
P. Edulji	20
E. P. J.	10
C. P. R. Office Staff	125
H.E. Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G.	100
Second Prize for Tug-of-War won by the Scotch Police at Willison's Circus	75
Half of 1st Prize for Tug-of-War won by the Asiatic Artillery at Willison's Circus	62.50
A Friend	50
Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart	25
Hon. F. A. Cooper	20
E. Bowdler	20
J. F. Boulton	20
G. Stafford Northcote	20
Hon. A. M. Thomson	20
Hon. R. M. Rumsey	10
J. R. Crook	10

Comr. Hastings	10
Captain Lethbridge	10
Hugh McCallum	10
Frank Browne	10
P. Power, Hoihow	10
N. S. Levy	10
Mrs. Mahomed	5
Respite	5
Sanitary Board Staff	60
Public Works Department Staff	39
Harbour Office Staff	36
Civil Hospital Staff	35
Post Office Staff	27
Geol. Staff	25
Treasury Office Staff	22.50
Magistracy Staff	15
Observatory Staff	10
C. S. O. Staff	4

\$43,210

A second remittance of Rs. 20,000 has been wired to the Honorary Secretary, Central Committee of the Indian Famine Relief Fund, Calcutta.

### ARMED ROBBERIES CAUGHT IN HONGKONG.

#### AN EXCITING SCENE.

Six men were brought up at the Police Court on the 22nd Feb. charged with participating in an armed attack and robbery at a shop in Queen's Road Central. The guilt of some of the prisoners is fortunately beyond dispute, as not only have they been identified but stolen property was found upon them at the time of their arrest. The police have had a most anxious time lately in dealing with the repeated attacks in the colony, and the fact that no clue could be obtained of the criminals naturally caused much apprehension of danger to exist in the minds of Chinese shopkeepers. The arrests that have just been made will, it is hoped, tend to remove all fears, as it is most probable that the robberies have been committed by one dangerous gang of ruffians. The circumstances of the capture and the events leading up to it are unusually exciting. About 9.45 on Saturday night four men armed with revolvers went to 141, Queen's Road Central. One part of the shop is used by a money changer and the other by a Chinese druggist. Just as the men were entering by the street door a little boy who was in the kitchen caught sight of them. Natural instinct probably led him to conclude that the visitors were bent on robbery, as the youngster at once escaped by the back door and explained his fears to an Indian constable, whom he soon afterwards met. One of the robbers saw the rapid exit of the boy and shouted to his companions "Some one has gone out," whereupon the men hastily and quietly left the house, and when the Indian constable came upon the scene they had cleared right away. Not more than a quarter of an hour later several armed men—it is not certain whether there were four or five or six, but it is supposed they included the first gang—entered a shop at 264, Queen's Road Central, one side of which is a goldsmith's store and the other a store owned by a dealer in jade stone ornaments and jewellery. At that time several men were at work in the shop and no sooner had the thieves entered when the workmen and also the shopkeepers were commanded to keep silence under penalty of being shot. They were all taken to the kitchen at the rear of the premises and a guard was placed over them, and a few men who were asleep upstairs were also rudely awakened and forced to join the other men in the kitchen. The premises were then ransacked, the boxes being forced open with a jemmy. While thus engaged one of the shopmen who had been absent when the robbers entered came to the front door and pushed it, expecting it to open as usual. But the door was bolted and when the tap was heard one of the thieves drew back the bolt and was encountered with the question "Who are you?" The desperadoes were not long in demonstrating their character. They quickly pulled down inside the shop by the queue, pulled the door, and told him they wanted his money.



in default, his life. Of course the man could offer no resistance and he found himself hurried into the close company of the rest of the inmates after being sworn at for coming at such an inopportune and busy time. The work which had been thus unexpectedly interrupted was resumed and several drawers and boxes on the premises were forced open. Gold and silver ornaments, jewellery of various kinds, jade ornaments, and over \$100 in money were collared, the total value of the spoil being something like \$600. The thieves then stealthily left the premises. A short time afterwards the police at the Central Police Station were informed of the robbery and the detectives at once turned out to make investigations. By a method which has been recently adopted in consequence of the prevalence of armed attacks the whole of the police in the city and also the water police were made acquainted of the fact that an armed robbery had been committed. This method is a most excellent one and simply consists of firing a rocket from Peddar's Wharf and thus within a few minutes of a crime like this being enacted the police know that their duty is to keep a strict look-out for the perpetrators. The efforts of the police on Saturday night were in vain, but on Sunday morning Inspector Stanton received some valuable information upon which he immediately took action. He got the assistance of Detective Sergeant McIver and went to No. 7 Police Station, where he was joined by Inspector Hennessy and a large staff of Chinese detectives and constables in plain clothes. They proceeded in a cautious manner to a house at 95, First Street. The Chinese police were stationed all round the house and some of them were even ordered on to the roof. So effectual was the blockade that a mouse could not have escaped unobserved. These arrangements having been made Inspectors Stanton and Hennessy, Sergeant McIver, and two or three among the pick of the Chinese detective staff proceeded quietly to the top floor of the house where they surprised four men, who were instantly handcuffed. On two of them being searched packets of earrings, hair ornaments, gold bangles, and other jewellery which had been stolen from 264, Queen's Road Central were found upon them, while a jemmy was also found concealed under the eaves of the house. This jemmy exactly fitted the marks made on the boxes and drawers. Not only these four men but the landlord of the house and another man were also arrested and the six were promptly taken to No. 7 Police Station, where they were identified as the robbers. They were brought before Commander Hastings yesterday and remanded.

### HONGKONG RACE MEETING.

FIRST DAY, 17TH FEBRUARY.

The weather ought certainly to have been kinder than it was on Wednesday, the opening day of the Hongkong Race Meeting. In the early part of the morning rain fell and it looked as though the races were destined to be greeted with continuous heavy showers. This fear happily proved groundless, but during the whole of the day the sky was leaden and not a single ray of sunshine burst through the heavens to brighten the scene. Great coats and gloves, umbrellas and mackintoshes in such numbers as were to be seen at the Happy Valley on Wednesday are not what one likes to associate with the great sporting meeting in the colony, and everyone regrets when the weather is so cold and cheerless that the ladies cannot lend a pleasing brilliancy to the scene with the aid of pretty dresses and dainty hats or bonnets. But there is one thought we can welcome, although it is not quite a consolation: the course was not in such a terrible condition as it was last year, when a jockey who escaped with a two-inch sheathing of mud could congratulate himself upon his luck. On Wednesday the course was in very good condition and the times were well up to the average. One of the earliest arrivals in the enclosure was His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson, and he was followed by Admiral and Lady Buller, Major-General and Mrs. Black, and other well-known ladies and gentlemen. The row of red brick buildings which have

lately been erected in a line with the grand stand for stable accommodation and, in the upper stories, for tiffin rooms and stands, looked very festive with a big display of bunting, and there can be no doubt that these buildings, although perhaps they are not so ornamental as they ought to be, are a great improvement on the matcheds. They were all fully occupied yesterday and were a very pleasant shelter from the cold wind and the misty rain that occasionally fell during the day. The band of the West Yorkshire Regiment was in attendance and the music they played was highly appreciated by everyone. The racing was most enjoyable and in some instances the results were an upset of popular opinion; but this "glorious uncertainty" adds to the pleasure and excitement. Mr. Master, who is the local Mr. Abingdon, rode in nine and of the ten events and he won three times and was placed three times—a highly creditable record.

The following is a list of the officials.—

Stewards:—His Excellency Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G.; His Excellency Vice-Admiral Sir Alex. Buller, K.C.B.; His Excellency Major-General Wilsone Black, C.B.; Commodore S. C. Holland, R.N., A.D.C.; Lieut.-Colonel The O'Gorman, C.S.O.; Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving; Hon. C. P. Chater; Mr. A. Coxon, Mr. D. Gillies, Mr. R. M. Gray, Mr. M. Grote, Mr. C. F. Harton, Mr. T. Jackson, Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Hon. T. H. Whithead.

Clerk of Scales:—Mr. C. F. Harton.

Judge:—Hon. C. P. Chater.

Starter:—Mr. M. Grote.

Second Starter:—Mr. C. H. Ross.

Hon. Treasurer:—Mr. A. Coutts.

Clerk of the Course:—Mr. T. F. Hough.

The WONG-NEI-CHONG STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$100 added; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; griffins on date of entry allowed 3lbs.; subscription griffins of this season, 1896-97, allowed 7lbs. Half-a-mile.

Mr. Dryasdust's Provost Marshal, 11st. 11lb.	(Mr. Hunt)	1
Mr. Boyd's Congo, 11st. 11lb.	(Owner)	2
Mr. John Peel's Boomerang, late Benares, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Master)	3
Mr. Buxey's White Lilac, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Reynell)	0

The four ponies were got to the post in good time and very soon after the mid-day gun was fired a satisfactory start was made. Congo showed the way to the rock, at which place Provost Marshal, who had been second, came abreast of the leader and on passing the village was two lengths ahead, White Lilac and Boomerang being in close pursuit of Congo. Entering the straight Boomerang challenged Congo, the latter of whom now went well, and a good race ensued between them for second place. Provost Marshal last ground somewhat in the race home, but he won with a good length in hand, Congo being second, half a length in front of Boomerang. Time, 1 min. 1 sec.

The ASHLEY CUP, presented by D. R. Sassoon, Esq.; for China ponies; entrance fees to go to the winner; second pony to receive \$50; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile.

Messrs. McKie and Gove's Roitelet, 11st. 11lb.	(Mr. Crawford)	1
Mr. Arnold's Straightforward, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Gresson)	2
Mr. J. Peel's Tossin, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Master)	3
Mr. Gustav's Competitor, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Sampson)	0
Mr. Boyd's Dunblane, 11st. 11lb.	(Mr. Owner)	0
Mr. Worthy's Bellringer, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Cox)	0
Mr. Buxey's Comet, 11st. 11lb.	(Mr. Reynell)	0
Mr. Dryasdust's Shiny William, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Hunt)	0

There was a most annoying series of breaks away before the start, Comet going half round the course three times, while three or four of the other ponies showed too much eagerness for the fray. At length, after a delay of a quarter of an hour, Mr. Grote succeeded in getting the ponies away from a capital line. On passing the grand stand for the first time the ponies were in a bunch, Dunblane, Bellringer, Straightforward and Competitor possessing a slight lead. At the plantation Dunblane and Competitor went away from the others, but Shiny William quickly overtook them and on going up the

hill he was in front, Straightforward being second, Dunblane third, and Tossin fourth. Passing the village Roitelet came along in good style from the outside and at the bend he had gained the lead. An excellent race home ensued between the placed horses, Shiny William and Dunblane. Halfway up the straight Tossin was urged forward, but Mr. Master could not reach the leader, and he had to be content with third place, Straightforward being second three lengths behind. Time, 2 minutes 9 secs.

The MAIDEN STAKES; value \$400; second pony to receive \$75; third, \$50; for China ponies; *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$10. Three-quarters of a mile.

Mr. J. Peel's Silver Bell, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Master)	1
Messrs. McKie and Gove's Glenmore, 11st. 11lb.	(Mr. Crawford)	2
Mr. David's Foeman, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Gresson)	3
Mr. Gustav's Red Fire, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Sampson)	0
Mr. Bobjack's Sinful, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Jones)	0
Mr. Jay's Sperber, 11st. 11lb.	(Mr. Hart Buck)	0
Mr. Twoman's The Rogue, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Cox)	0
Mr. Buxey's Black Rock, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Reynell)	0

The starter had very little difficulty with the ponies on this occasion and the start was a successful one. Red Fire went away at the beginning but he was at once overtaken by Silver Bell, Sinful being third, and the remainder in close attendance. The order was maintained until reaching the rock when Silver Bell went away at a great pace and before the village was reached Mr. Peel's pony was leading by three lengths, which was considerably increased at the bend. On passing the village Glenmore came out, with Sinful and the Rogue close in the rear. In the straight Foeman joined the trio, but Silver Bell had the race easily in hand and he passed the post a comfortable winner. The distance between second and third was only half a length. The Rogue was fourth and Sinful fifth. Time 1 min. 34 secs.

The VALLEY STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$200 added; first pony to receive 70 per cent.; second, 20 per cent.; third, 10 per cent.; for subscription griffins of this season, 1896-97; weight for inches as per scale. Three-quarters of a mile.

Messrs. G. Stewart and Loveband's Hasteway, 11st. 4lb.	(Capt. Loveband)	1
Mr. Medico's Hermes, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Reynell)	1
Mr. Stern's Dacopo, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Cox)	3
Messrs. G. Stewart and Loveband's Hawk away, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Gresson)	0
Mr. J. Peel's Castor, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Master)	0

Mr. Gustav's Chin-ohin, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Sampson)	0
Dr. Noble's Humbug, 11st. 11lb.	(Mr. Hart Buck)	0
Mr. Tilbro's Wakeful Joe, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Crawford)	0
Mr. Sam's Sunflower, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Penny)	0
The Neighbours' Landsturn, 11st. 7lbs.	(Mr. Jones)	0

The large field rendered the starter's work somewhat difficult and the flag fell to a rather indifferent start. The race was somewhat straggling and unexciting until the village was reached, when a fine race ensued between Hasteway and Hermes, the former of whom had led for most of the journey. It was a fine struggle and resulted in the judge awarding a dead heat. Dacopo was two and a half lengths behind, third. Time—1 min. 38 sec.

The FOOCOW CUP, value \$250; presented by the Foochow community; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$5. Two miles.

Mr. Dryasdust's Sinbad, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Hunt)	1
Mr. Bobjack's Sinner, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Jones)	2
Mr. John Peel's Torchlight, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Master)	3
Mr. Stern's Bravo, 11st. 11lb.	(Mr. Cox)	0



Sinner led on passing the stand for the first time, and at the rock he continued to maintain the lead, with Bravo second and Sinbad and Torchlight following. The ponies were being held well in on passing the stand for the second time and on reaching the plantation Sinbad took the lead, Sinner and Torchlight being next, while Bravo fell back a long way last towards the hill. At the village Sinbad went right away and won easily, Sinner coming in second, two lengths ahead of Torchlight. Time—4 mins. 44 secs.

**THE HONGKONG DERBY**; a sweepstakes of \$20 each with \$1,500 added; (half forfeit if declared on or before day of closing entries); for China ponies *bond fide* griffins on date of entry (Saturday, 16th January, 1897); first pony to receive 70 per cent.; second, 20 per cent.; third, 10 per cent.; weight for inches as per scale. One mile and a half.

Mr. John Peel's Red Fish, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Master) 1  
Mr. Gustav's Blue Fire, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Sampson) 2  
Mr. Trio's Polo, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. May) 3  
Mr. Bobjack's Sancy, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Jones) 0  
Messrs. McKie and Gove's Glendubh, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Crawford) 0  
Mr. Bobjack's Sinful, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Boyd) 0  
Mr. Gustav's Red Fire, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Hunt) 0  
Mr. J. Peel's Silver Bell, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Gresson) 0  
Mr. Newboy's Suaviter, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Buck) 0

Mr. David's Aspirant, 10st. 12lb. (Mr. Cox) 0  
This race, the principal event of the day, created an extraordinary amount of interest. Although there were no fewer than ten runners the flag fell to a fair start and throughout almost the entire race the majority of the ponies kept very close order and it was very difficult, except in the case of the winner, to say how the ponies would be placed on passing the judge's box. Sinful, Red Fish, and Blue Fire were the most prominent for a considerable distance, but on passing the rock Glendubh came in front. The whole of the ponies, however, kept very close together until the rock was left behind, when Red Fish came out and, after a grand effort, put all doubts at rest by taking a lead of at least half a dozen lengths, and it was by this distance that he won, Blue Fire being second, Polo third, White Rose fourth, and Aspirant fifth. Time—3 mins. 19 secs.

**THE LUSITANO CUP**; presented by the members of the Club Lusitano; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; previous winners at the meeting 7lbs. extra; subscription griffins of this season, 1896-97, allowed 7 lbs.; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Boyd's Dunblane, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. H. Buck) 1  
Mr. J. Peel's Heatherbell, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Master) 2  
Mr. Buxey's Surprise, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Reynell) 3  
Mr. Arnold's Straightforward, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Gresson) 0  
Mr. Gustav's Competitor, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Sampson) 0  
Mr. David's Arthurlie, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Cox) 0

An excellent race was witnessed. Competitor took a lead of three lengths soon after the start, but this was materially reduced at the plantation, where Heatherbell came close up second and at the rock he was leading, Competitor having fallen to the rear. At the village Mr. Peel's pony had a lead of three lengths, but at this point Dunblane went up second, with Surprise third. Dunblane and Heatherbell had a very exciting race home and whips were freely used, the result being in favour of Dunblane. Time—2 mins. 43½ secs.

**THE COMPADORS CUP**; presented; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for subscription griffins of this season, 1896-97; weight for inches as per scale; winner of Valley stakes 5lbs. extra; entrance \$5. One mile.

Messrs. McKie and Gove's Gleniffer, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Crawford) 1  
Mr. Buxey's Sport, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Reynell) 2

Messrs. Stewart and Loveband's Hasteaway, 11st. 9lbs. (Mr. Loveband) 3

Mr. Rameses' Gauntlet, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Hunt) 0

Mr. David's Demterlie, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Cox) 0

Mr. Wayfoong's Cumshaw, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Jones) 0

Mr. Tithong's Swindle, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Gedge) 0

Mr. Medico's Hermes, 11st. 9lb. (Mr. Pennett) 0

Until the village was reached the race was of a dingdong order. At that stage Gleniffer, who had kept in the rear of Swindle, Hermes, and Demterlie, came out and took the lead, followed by Sport and Hasteaway, and in this order they entered the straight. Gleniffer ran home an easy winner by five lengths. Time—2 mins. 11 secs.

**THE HONGKONG CLUB CUP**; presented; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$15. One mile and a half.

Mr. J. Peel's Pineapple, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Master) 1

Mr. Buxey's Black Eagle, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Reynell) 2

Mr. Twoman's Kilroy, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Cox) 3

Mr. Boyd's 'Enery' Awkin, 11st. 1lb. (Owner) 0

Mr. Lipton's Slander, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Jones) 0

There was practically no delay at the start. Kilroy showed the way followed closely by Pineapple and 'Enery' Awkins. Passing the stand for the first time the order was—Kilroy, Black Eagle, 'Enery' Awkins, and Slander, and on passing the bridge the ponies raced in the order named one behind the other. At the rock Pineapple and Black Eagle got abreast and passed Kilroy, who became third and was left a couple of lengths behind. At the village it was clear that victory rested with either Pineapple or Black Eagle and in the straight both ponies were punished. Mr. Master rode splendidly and drawing away won by two and a half lengths: several lengths between second and third. Time—3 mins. 17½ secs.

**THE ENCOURAGEMENT STAKES**; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$100 added; for subscription griffins of this season, 1896-97; first pony to receive 70 per cent.; second, 20 per cent.; third, 10 per cent.; previous winners excluded; weight for inches as per scale. Once round.

Mr. Buxey's Hopeful, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Reynell) 1

Mr. Stern's Dacapo, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Cox) 2

Mr. Hart Buck's Croxton, 10st. 12lbs. (Owner) 3

Mr. Peel's Pollux, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Master) 0

Mr. Walker's Little Owl, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Crawford) 0

Mr. Wayfoong's Cumshaw, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Anderson) 0

Messrs. Stewart and Loveband's Harkaway, 11st. (Captain Loveband) 0

Mr. Montrose's Monaliadh, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Gresson) 0

Mr. Sam's Sunflower, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Penny) 0

Mr. Tilbros' Wakiul Joe, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Jones) 0

Mr. Quintee's Query, 11st. (Mr. Gedge) 0

This race brought out eleven ponies, the largest number in the day's meeting. Hopeful won by four lengths, two lengths between second and third. Time, 1 min. 59½ secs.

#### SECOND DAY, 18TH FEBRUARY.

Although the air was as cold on Thursday as it was on the opening day the weather was brighter and happily no rain fell. There was again a large attendance, including His Excellency the Governor, Admiral Buller, and Major-General Black, and the proceedings were of a most interesting character. Most of the races furnished an abundance of excitement, some of the finishes being exceptionally good. Mr. Master started well by winning the first two events and being placed third in the next, his record for the day being eight mounts, four wins, and three places. The most important race was that for the German Cup, which Gleniffer won with comparative ease. During the day the band of the Russian flagship *Eurik* played many excellent selections of music.

**THE SOURRY STAKES**; a sweepstakes of \$10 each; for China ponies *bond fide* griffins on date of entry; weight for inches as per scale; winners 7lbs. extra. One mile.

Mr. J. Peel's Crabapple, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Master) 1

Messrs. McKie & Gove's Glendubh, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Crawford) 2

Mr. Buxey's Black Rock, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Reynell) 3

Mr. Trio's Polo, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. May) 0

Mr. Twoman's The Rogue, 11st. 7lbs. (Mr. Cox) 0

Mr. Newboy's Suaviter, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Hart Buck) 0

Mr. Bobjack's Sancy, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Jones) 0

The ponies were all at the post at noon, but owing to two breaks away by the Rogue and the obstinacy of Black Rock, who had to be led to the post, the start, which was a good one, was delayed. Sancy at once took the lead and on passing the stand Black Rock was second and Suaviter third. At the bridge Black Rock went away with a lead of two lengths in front of Sancy, Polo being two lengths behind, third, and the remainder were in a bunch, with the exception of the Rogue. Going up the hill Polo and Sancy drew up almost abreast of the leader and then Crabapple came up from the outside and got into third position, with Glendubh, who had gained ground towards the rock, second. On entering the straight Black Rock, Crabapple, and Glendubh were abreast. About halfway up Crabapple put on a grand sport and won an excellent race by three lengths; half a length between second and third. Polo was fourth, the Rogue fifth, and Sancy sixth. Time—2 mins. 8½ secs.

**THE EXCHANGE PLATE**; presented by the bankers and exchange brokers of Hongkong; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; *bond fide* griffins on date of entry allowed 5lbs. extra; winners at this meeting 5lbs. extra; entrance \$10. One mile and three-quarters.

Mr. J. Peel's Red Fish, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Master) 1

Mr. Buxey's Surprise, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Reynell) 2

Mr. Gustav's Blue Fire, 10st. 10lb. (Mr. Sampson) 3

Mr. Bobjack's Sinner, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Jones) 0

There was no difficulty in getting the ponies away. Surprise made the running, followed by Blue Fire, Red Fish, and Sinner, and in this order the ponies went at an easy pace. At the rock Surprise had a lead of two and a half lengths, but at the village Red Fish went abreast of Mr. Buxey's pony, Blue Fire being third and Sinner fourth. This order was maintained for a considerable distance, but after leaving the rock Surprise went away with a lead of two lengths, Blue Fire being third, and Sinner a long way behind and altogether out of the running. Just before reaching the bend Red Fish challenged Surprise and they had a grand race home, the Derby winner getting home with only three-quarters of a length in hand; a bad third. Time—3 mins. 58 secs.

**THE GARRISON CUP**; presented by the officers of the garrison; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies *bond fide* griffins on date of entry; weight for inches as per scale; winners 7lbs. extra; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Buxey's White Rose, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Reynell) +

Messrs. McKie and Gove's Glenmore, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Crawford) +

Mr. J. Peel's Silver Bell, 11st. 2lbs. (Mr. Master) 3

Mr. Jay's Sperber, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Buck) 0

Mr. Gustav's Red Fire, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Sampson) 0

A good start was effected. White Rose showed the way followed by Silver Bell and Red Fire, this being the order passing the stand. At the bridge Glenmore passed Red Fire and going down the hill White Rose and Silver Bell took a lead of two lengths, Sperber and Red Fire being now out of the race. White Rose and Silver Bell were the first to enter the straight and they were hotly pursued by Glenmore, who quickly joined White Rose, and a splendid race home between these two ended in a dead heat, Silver Bell being third, four lengths behind. Time—2 mins. 44 secs.

**DECIDING HEAT**

Glenmore heat White Rose

Won by two and a half lengths. Time 2 mins. 46½ secs.



The GERMAN CUP; presented by members of the German Club; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for subscription griffins of this season, 1896-97; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter.

Messrs. McKie & Gove's Gleniffer, 11st. 11lb. (Mr. Crawford)	1
Mr. Dryasdust's Gauntlet, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Hunt)	2
Mr. Buxey Sport, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Reynell)	3
Mr. Gustav's Chin-chin, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Sampson)	0
Mr. J. Peel's Pollux, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Master)	0
Mr. Stern's Dacapo, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Cox)	0
Messrs. G. Stewart & Loveband's Hasteaway, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Loveband)	0
Mr. Buxey's Hopeful, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Gresson)	0
Dr. Noble's Humbug, 11st. 11lb. (Mr. Buck)	0

There were three or four breaks away before the flag fell to a fairly good start. Hasteaway, Sport, and Hopeful led the way at the beginning and on passing the grand stand for the first time Hasteaway was leading, Hopeful being second, Humbug third, and Gleniffer fourth. At the bridge the ponies became straggling and Humbug now assumed the lead, Mr. Buxey's ponies being next in order, with Gleniffer in close attendance. On passing the village Gleniffer went right away from the others and had a lead of at least five lengths, the most prominent of the others being Hasteaway, Gauntlet, Sport, and Humbug. Gleniffer increased his lead in the straight and won in a common canter by half-a-dozen lengths. Time—2 mins. 45 secs.

The PROFESSIONAL CUP; presented; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; winners of one race at this meeting 7lbs. extra; of two or more races, 10lbs. extra; previous non-starters to carry 12st; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter.

Messrs. McKie & Gove's Roitelet, 11st 8lb. (Mr. Crawford)	1
Mr. J. Peel's Heatherbell, 11st. 11lb. (Mr. Master)	2
Mr. Buxey's Comet, 11st. 11lb. (Mr. Reynell)	3
Mr. Boyd's Dunblane, 11st. 8lbs. (Mr. Buck)	0
Mr. J. Peel's Tocsin, 11st 4lbs. (Mr. Gresson)	0
Mr. Bobjack's Sinful, 11st. 11lb. (Mr. Jones)	0

Heatherbell got the better of the start, having a lead of a length and a half, and Comet and Sinful were the next most prominent. Comet caught up Heatherbell in the straight and was first on passing the stand for the first time, Heatherbell being second, Sinful third, Tocsin fourth, Dunblane fifth, and Roitelet last. This order was maintained to the hill, where Sinful fell back and Comet and Heatherbell became the leaders, with an advantage of four lengths. Just before reaching the bend Roitelet came out grandly and in the straight caught up the leaders. A magnificent race home resulted in Roitelet gaining the victory by half a length. Time—2 mins. 44½ secs.

The JOCKEY CUP; value \$150; second pony to receive \$50; for subscription ponies of any season, winners excluded; to be ridden by jockeys who have never had a winning mount previous to this meeting in Hongkong or China; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile.

Mr. Buck's Croxton, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Cox)	1
Mr. Wayfoong's Cumshaw, 11st 1lb. (Mr. Anderson)	2
Messrs. G. Stewart and Loveband's Harkaway, 11st. 2lbs. (Capt. Loveband)	3
Mr. Bobjack's Scout, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Crawford)	0
Mr. Tilbro's Wakeful Joe, (8lbs. overweight), 11st. 1lb. (Capt. Edye)	0

Wakeful Joe went at a tremendous pace and on passing the stand it was seen that the rider was in difficulties in consequence of his saddle having slipped. The result of the misplacement was that just after passing the rock Capt. Edye was thrown, but fortunately he escaped with a scraped shoulder and a torn jacket. After the fall of Capt. Edye Harkaway and Cumshaw led to the bend, when Croxton came up and getting a capital pace on won by two lengths and a half. Time—2 mins. 16 secs.

The FLYAWAY STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$100 added; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; subscription ponies of any season non-winners allowed

7lbs; subscription ponies of any season winners allowed 8lbs; previous winners at this meeting 7lbs. extra. Three-quarters of a mile.

Mr. Buxey's Black Rock, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Reynell)	1
Mr. J. Peel's Boomerang, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Master)	2
Mr. Arnold's Straightforward, 10st. 6lbs. (Mr. Gresson)	3
Dr. Noble's Grey Leg, 11st. 2½lbs. (Capt. Loveband)	0
Mr. Boyd's Congo, 11st. 11lb. (Mr. Buck)	0
Mr. Dryasdust's Shiney William, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Hunt)	0
Mr. Worthy's Bellringer, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Crawford)	0
Mr. Gustav's Competitor, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Sampson)	0
Mr. Bobjack's Saucy, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Cox)	0
Mr. Boyd's Kartush, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. May)	0
Mr. Dryasdust's Provost Marshall, 11st. 8lbs. (Mr. Jones)	0

The ponies were sent away to a very straggling start, Bellringer being the leader. The race was somewhat of a scramble until the straight was reached, when Black Rock, Boomerang, and Straightforward came to the front, the first named leading by over a length. Boomerang challenged him, but could not pass and a good race home ended in a victory for Mr. Buxey's pony by a length. The winner covered the course in the remarkably quick time of 1 min. 32½ secs.

The TAI YEUK FONG CUP; value \$200; presented by J. D. Humphreys, Esq.; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies *bond fide* griffins on date of entry; subscription griffins weight for inches as per scale, other griffins 7lbs. extra; previous winners 7lbs. extra; entrance \$10. One mile and a half.

Mr. Buxey's Black Eagle, 11st. 8lbs. (Mr. Reynell)	1
Mr. Newboy's Suaviter, 11st. 11lbs. (Mr. Gresson)	2

Sinful's number was hoisted, but he did not go to the post. Black Eagle led all the way and won in a common canter. Time—3 mins. 26½ sec.

The NAVY CUP; presented by officers of H.M. Fleet; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; previous winners at this meeting of one race 5lbs. extra; of two races 7lbs. extra; and of three or more races 10lbs. extra; non-starters at this meeting excluded; entrance \$10. One mile and a half.

Mr. Peel's Pineapple, 11st. (Mr. Master)	1
Mr. Dryasdust's Sinbad, 11st. (Mr. Hunt)	2
Mr. Stern's Bravo, 11st. 2lb. (Mr. Jones)	3

The start was a very bad one, Pineapple having a lead of a length, Bravo being second. Entering the straight all the ponies were abreast, but at the grand stand Pineapple and Sinbad were leading by a length. There was no change until the plantation was reached, when Pineapple obtained a slight lead. Passing the village he was a length and a half from Sinbad, and by this distance he won; a bad third. Time—3 mins. 19½ secs.

The GYMKHANA STAKES; value \$150, presented by the Gymkhana Committee, added to a sweepstakes of \$5 each; for subscription ponies of any season; winners and previous non-starters excluded; first pony to receive 70 per cent.; second, 20 per cent.; third, 10 per cent.; weight for inches as per scale. One mile.

Dr. Noble's Humbug, 11st. 11lb. (Mr. Master)	1
Mr. Buxey's Sport, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Reynell)	2
Mr. Stern's Dacapo, 10st. 2lbs. (Mr. Cox)	3
Mr. Sam's Sunflower, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Penny)	0
Mr. Quintet's Query, 11st. 11lb. (Mr. Gedge)	0
Mr. Wayfoong's Cumshaw, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Sampson)	0

The Neighbour's Landsturm, 11st. 7lbs. (Mr. Jones)

A beautiful start was made. Landsturm soon got to the front, with Humbug second, but the latter was quickly overtaken by Dacapo. At the rock Humbug recovered his position and at the village Landsturm was leading by two lengths. Before reaching the straight, however, Landsturm lost ground and Humbug came along, followed by Dacapo and Sport and these three had a capital race home, Humbug winning by two lengths. Time—2 mins. 13 secs.

### THIRD DAY, 19TH FEBRUARY.

The attendance at the Happy Valley on Friday was particularly good and an exceedingly enjoyable day's sport was witnessed. The three principal events were the Ladies' Purse, the Championship Stakes, and the Robinson Challenge Cup, all of which brought out large fields. Roitelet (Mr. Crawford up) won the Ladies' Purse and the victorious jockey was presented with the much coveted prize by Miss B. Jackson, the interesting ceremony taking place amid much enthusiasm in the Grand Stand just before the luncheon interval. Roitelet also won the Championship Stakes in fine style and the owners are to be highly congratulated upon the great success of this pony during the meeting, while the addition of the Robinson Challenge Cup to their list of wins is also very gratifying. During the afternoon the combined bands of the Navy played several selections of music.

The GRAND STAND STAKES; value \$150; second pony to receive \$50; third, \$25; for China ponies *bond fide* griffins on date of entry; winners of one race 5lbs. extra; of two races 7lbs. extra; and of three or more races 9lbs. extra; subscription griffins non-winners allowed 5lbs; entrance \$5. Once round.

Mr. David's Aspirant, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Sampson)	1
Mr. Buxey's Black Rock, 11st. 3lbs. (Mr. Reynell)	2
Messrs. McKie & Gove's Glendubh, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Crawford)	3
Mr. Twoman's The Rogue, 11st. 7lbs. (Mr. Cox)	0
Mr. J. Peel's Crabapple, 11st. 6lbs. (Mr. Master)	0
Mr. Bobjack's Saucy, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Gresson)	0
Mr. Jay's Sperber, 11st. 11lb. (Mr. Buck)	0

No time was lost in getting the ponies to the post and a good start was made two or three minutes after twelve o'clock. Aspirant showed the way, followed by Crabapple, Saucy, and Glendubh. Nearing the bridge Black Rock came out and passing Aspirant obtained a lead of a length and a half. There was little alteration in the order until the hill was reached, when Glendubh went abreast of Crabapple and Aspirant dropped back to fourth place. At the village, however, Aspirant came forward with a bound and on entering the straight he, Crabapple, Glendubh, and Black Rock were abreast. Aspirant left the others half way up the straight and won by three lengths, Black Rock being second, Glendubh third, and Crabapple fourth. Time—1 min. 55½ secs.

The CIVIL SERVICE PURSE; presented; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for subscription griffins of this season, 1896-97; weight for inches as per scale; previous winners 7lbs. extra; penalties accumulative; entrance \$5. One mile.

Mr. Stern's Dacapo, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Crawford)	1
Messrs. G. Stewart & Loveband's Hasteaway, 11st. 11lbs. (Capt. Loveband)	2
Mr. Noble's Humbug, 11st. 8lbs. (Mr. Master)	3
Mr. Wayfoong's Cumshaw, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Jones)	0
Mr. Hart Buck's Croxton, 11st. 5lbs. (Owner)	0
Mr. Buxey's Sport, 11st. 6lbs. (Mr. Reynell)	0
Mr. Buxey's Hopeful, 11st. 5lbs. (Mr. Gresson)	0
Mr. Tilbro's Wakeful Joe, 11st. 2lbs. (Capt. Edye)	0

A good start was made. Wakeful Joe cut out the running followed by Hasteaway and Sport. There was no alteration in the position of the ponies until a hundred yards from the hill, when Dacapo went forward and he and Wakeful were abreast at the village, Hasteaway being four lengths behind. In the straight Hasteaway and Humbug came forward and a fine race ensued, Dacapo getting home by a length. Time—2 mins. 13 secs.

The CHALLENGE CUP; value 100 guineas; for China ponies; to be won two years consecutively by a pony or ponies the property of the same owner; first pony to receive 70 per cent., second 20 per cent., and third, 10 per cent., of entrance fees; weight



for inches as per scale; entrance (forced) \$5; but optional to subscription griffins of this season, 1896-97. One mile and three-quarters.

Mr. Buxey's Surprise, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Reynell) 1  
Mr. Gustav's Blue Fire, 11st. 11bs. (Mr. Crawford) 2  
Mr. J. Peel's Pineapple, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Master) 3  
Mr. Dryasdust's Sinbad, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Hunt) 0

Mr. Bobjack's Sinful, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Jones) 0  
Pineapple was the first to get away to a good start, he being on the rails, with Surprise and Sinbad close up. At the bridge Sinbad got abreast of Pineapple and towards the hill obtained a lead of a length. At the rock, however, Pineapple overtook Sinbad and they led into the straight, followed by Surprise and Blue Fire, Sinful being last, and in this order they passed the grand stand for the first time. At the bridge the ponies got closer together and later Pineapple drew out and got a lead of a length from Sinbad, who got abreast of Mr. Peel's pony at the rock, but at the village the latter drew away again. In the straight Blue Fire came up with a fine spurt, but it was too late, as Surprise was splendidly ridden and Pineapple was passed, Mr. Buxey's pony getting home by three lengths. The race for second honours was a very close one. Time—3mins. 53½secs.

The LADIES' PURSE; for all China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; winners at this meeting other than subscription griffins 5lbs. extra; unplaced ponies allowed 5lbs; previous non-starters at this meeting 12lbs. extra; entrance \$5. Seven furlongs.

Messrs. McKie & Gove's Roitelet, 11st. 6lbs. (Mr. Crawford) 1

Mr. John Peel's Heatherbell, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Master) 2

Mr. Dryasdust's Shiney Villiam, 11st. 3lbs (Mr. Hunt) 3

Dr. Noble's Grey Leg, 10st. 10lbs. (Owner) 0

Mr. Arnold's Straightforward, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Gresson) 0

Mr. Buxey's Comet, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Reynell) 0

Mr. Buxey's White Lilac, 10st. 10lb. (Mr. Sampson) 0

After a slight delay Mr. Grote got the ponies away to a good start, White Lilac being the first to show up, but he was quickly overtaken by Shiney Villiam and Grey Leg, Heatherbell being fourth, and Straightforward fifth. Before getting to the hill Shiney Villiam had obtained a lead of half a dozen lengths, but at the village Heatherbell drew up, followed by Roitelet, and these three were almost abreast on entering the straight. A good race home resulted in a victory for Roitelet by a length and a half; a good third. Time—1 min. 51½ secs.

The ROBINSON CHALLENGE CUP, presented by H.E. Sir Wm. Robinson, K.C.M.G.; for subscription griffins of this season; to be won twice by ponies the *bona fide* property of the same owner or owners; first pony to receive 70 per cent. of the entrance fees; second 20 per cent.; third 10 per cent.; weight for inches as per scale; winner of the German and/or Tai Yeuk Fong Cups 10lbs. extra, winners of any other races 5lbs. extra; entrance fee \$10. One mile and a half.

Messrs. McKie & Gove's Gleniffer, 11st. 11lbs. (Mr. Crawford) 1

Mr. Dryasdust's Gauntlet, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Hunt) 2

Dr. Noble's Humbug, 11st. 6lbs. (Mr. Master) 3

Mr. Bobjack's See-Saw, 11st. 7lbs. (Mr. Jones) 0

Mr. Walter's Little Owl, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Penny) 0

Mr. Gustav's Croxton, 11st. 3lbs. (Mr. Buck) 0

Messrs. G. Stewart and Loveband's Hasteaway, 11st. 9lbs. (Capt. Loveband) 0

Mr. Tilbro's Wakeful Joe, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Sampson) 0

There were a couple of false starts, but the ponies were got away in good style, See-saw and Hasteaway being the most prominent and closely followed by Little Owl, Gauntlet, and Humbug. At the village Little Owl went forward and led by three lengths and he was also first on passing the grand stand for the first time, the next in order being Hasteaway, See-saw, and Wakeful Joe. The ponies formed a procession on passing the bridge, but the first three soon

drew up and then Gleniffer passed all the others in a grand stride, Wakeful Joe being second, and Hasteaway third. Going up the hill Wakeful Joe took the lead and was followed by Humbug, Gauntlet being third. Just before reaching the bend Gleniffer bounced forward and he and Gauntlet entered the straight together, a very exciting race home resulting in Gleniffer gaining the victory by a head, Humbug being a good third, Croxton fourth, and the rest nowhere. Time—3 mins. 27½ secs.

The PARSEE CUP, presented; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; winners of one race at this meeting 5lbs. extra; of two or more races 7lbs. extra; unplaced ponies allowed 5lbs; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Buxey's White Rose, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Reynell) 1

Mr. J. Peel's Boomerang, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Master) †

Mr. David's Foeman, 10st. 7lbs. (Mr. Jones) †

Mr. J. Peel's Heatherbell, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Gresson) 0

Mr. Bobjack's Sinful, 10st. 10lbs. (Mr. Cox) 0

Mr. Gustav's Competitor, 10st. 7lbs. (Mr. Sampson) 0

There was not much delay at the post and a fairly good start was made, Competitor being the first to get away, Foeman and White Rose being the next pair, with Heatherbell fourth, and the other two close up. Entering the straight White Rose got to the front, being followed by Foeman and Competitor, and on passing the grand stand for the first time White Rose was first, Heatherbell second, Competitor third, and Foeman and Boomerang next. This was the order until within easy distance of the rock, when Heatherbell went abreast of White Rose and Boomerang ran neck and neck with Competitor. Before entering the straight Boomerang got into a grand stride and passed Competitor, but White Rose and Foeman kept a fine pace and a magnificent finish was witnessed between these three, White Rose getting home by only a head and Foeman and Boomerang running a dead heat for second honours. Time, 2 mins. 45 secs.

The PHAETON STAKES; value \$250; second pony to receive 70 per cent. of entrance fees; third, 30 per cent.; for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; weight for inches as per scale; previous winners at this meeting 5lbs. extra; penalties accumulative; unplaced ponies allowed 5lbs; subscription griffins of the season, 1896-97, allowed 7lbs; entrance \$5. From the two-mile post once round and in.

Messrs. McKie & Gove's Glenmore, 11st. 6lbs. (Mr. Crawford) 1

Mr. J. Peel's Silver Bell, 11st. (Mr. Master) 2

Mr. Buxey's Black Rock, 11st. 3lbs. (Mr. Reynell) 3

Mr. Trio's Polo, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Hart Buck) 0

Mr. Gustav's Red Fire, 10st. 13lbs. (Mr. Jones) 0

Mr. David's Arthurlie, 10st. 7lbs. (Mr. Cox) 0

Mr. J. Peel's Crabapple, 11st. 6lbs. (Mr. Gresson) 0

Mr. Newboy's Suaviter 10st. 13lbs. (Mr. Hunt) 0

Suaviter and Arthurlie, with Silver Bell in close attendance, made the running, and there was no alteration in the position of the first three horses on passing the stand. At the bridge Black Rock went fourth and towards the hill Silver Bell beat off Arthurlie and Suaviter, who fell out of the race, and now Black Rock became second, and Polo third. Silver Bell continued so lead, but at the bend Glenmore, on the inside, came through and challenged Silver Bell, while Black Rock and Polo also came along in fine style. A capital race resulted in a victory for Glenmore by a length; half a length between second and third, and a length between third and the fourth, Polo. Time—2mins. 22secs.

The CONSOLATION STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$100 added; second pony to receive \$50; for beaten China ponies at this meeting; weight for inches as per scale. Once round.

Mr. J. Peel's Boomerang, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Master) 1

Mr. J. Peel's Tocsin, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Gresson) 2

Mr. Arnold's Straightforward, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Sampson) 3

Mr. Boyd's Congo, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Hart Buck) 0

Mr. Stern's Bravo, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Jones) 0

Messrs. McKie & Gove's Glendubh, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Crawford) 0

Mr. Boyd's Kartush, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. May) 0

Mr. Bobjack's Saucy, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Cox) 0

Mr. Bobjack's Sinful, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Lawford) 0

There was a good start and the ponies were not urged to any extent until the straight was reached, when Boomerang took a long lead and won very comfortably indeed, Tocsin, who came up in fine style halfway up the straight, being second a head in front of Straightforward. Time—1 min. 55½ secs.

The CHAMPION STAKES; with \$250 added; for China ponies winners at this meeting only; a forced entry; entrance \$20; winner of two races \$30; of three or more \$50; weight for inches as per scale. One mile and a half.

Messrs. McKie & Gove's Roitelet, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Crawford) 1

Mr. Dryasdust's Sinbad, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Hunt) 2

Mr. Peel's Red Fish, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Master) 3

Mr. Boyd's Dunblane, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Buck) 0

Mr. Peel's Pineapple, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Gresson) 0

Mr. David's Aspirant, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Sampson) 0

Mr. Dryasdust's Provost Marshall, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Cox) 0

Mr. Boyd's Black Eagle, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Reynell) 0

Messrs. McKie & Gove's Glenmore, 11st. 11b. (Mr. May) 0

Mr. Buxey's Surprise, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Jones) 0

Naturally there was considerable excitement over this race for the championship and the speculation was exceptionally keen, the favourites being Red Fish, Roitelet, and, among a few, Aspirant, who was looked upon as dangerous, providing he could stay the distance. There were two false starts and the ponies were very straggling when the flag fell. Going up the hill Provost Marshall took a commanding lead and made the running for Sinbad. The field, however, decided to hold back, trusting to the leader not being able to sustain his effort. Coming into the straight Provost Marshall increased his lead and Aspirant, who had up to now been pulled hard back, still remained second. Passing the grand stand for the first time Aspirant was second and Sinbad was going comfortably. The pace materially increased at the bridge and Aspirant now fell back, while Provost Marshall, doubtless contrary to expectations, still held the lead, but at the rock the field were rapidly overhauling him. Red Fish, Roitelet, and Sinbad were the most prominent on entering the straight and a short distance from home Roitelet came to the front rapidly and won amidst loud cheers by a length; a head between second and third, Time—3 mins. 18½ secs.

The NIL DESPERANDUM STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$50 added; second pony to receive \$50; third pony \$25; for beaten subscription griffins of this season, 1896-97; weight for inches as per scale. Half a mile.

The Neighbour's Landsturm, 11st. 7lbs. (Mr. Jones) 1

Mr. Buxey's Sport, 11st. 4lbs. (Capt. Loveband) †

Mr. Tilbro's Wakeful Joe, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Master) †

Mr. Bobjack's Scout, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Lawford) 0

Mr. David's Demterlie, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Cox) 0

Mr. Quintet's Query, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Gedge) 0

Mr. Sam's Sunflower, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Penny) 0

Messrs. G. Stewart & Loveband's Hasteaway, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Gresson) 0

Mr. Walter's Little Owl, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Hunt) 0

Mr. Wayfoong's Cumshaw, 11st. 11b. (Mr. Buck) 0

The winner went to the front at the first and won by half a length; a dead heat for second position. Time—62secs.

THE OFF DAY, 20TH FEBRUARY.  
The Race Meeting was brought to a conclusion on Saturday by the off day events. The



attendance was very good indeed considering the cold weather and the sport was quite up to the standard of previous off days. Unfortunately the afternoon did not pass without rather a nasty accident happening in the steeplechase race. Mr. Hart Buck rode Voltigeur, who ran splendidly and cleared all the obstacles with the exception of the last one in fine style. In negotiating this one, however, he stumbled and threw his rider heavily head foremost on to the ground. Voltigeur, who was winning comfortably, recovered himself and ran on, but Mr. Buck did not move and Dr. Atkinson, Surgeon-Captain Edey, Inspector Mann, and a number of constables at once went to Mr. Buck's assistance and the injured jockey received every attention at the hands of the medical gentlemen and he was soon afterwards taken in an ambulance to the Government Civil Hospital, Dr. Atkinson accompanying him. Mr. Buck was found to be suffering from concussion, but we are happy to state he made a speedy recovery and was able to leave the hospital on Tuesday. Captain Loveband was also thrown at the same obstacle, but fortunately he was uninjured. With the exception of this unfortunate incident the races were a great success. In the intervals the band of the West Yorkshire Regiment played some admirable selections of music, which were much enjoyed. And now that the race meeting is over we would like to compliment the police upon the excellent arrangements carried out at the course and in the streets for controlling the heavy traffic. Every man on duty efficiently performed his task and the public were thus saved a good deal of trouble and annoyance.

The "GLEN" CUP, presented; second pony to receive 70 per cent. of the entrance fees; third 30 per cent. for all beaten subscription griffins of this season, 1896-97; placed ponies penalised 7lbs.; entrance \$10. One mile.

Mr. Dryasdust's Gauntlet, 11st. 5lbs. (Mr. Hunt) 1

Mr. Buxey's Sport, 11st. 11lbs. (Mr. Cox) 2

The ponies travelled abreast up to the half mile post, when Sport took the lead and at the rock was a length in front of Gauntlet. A quarter of a mile further Gauntlet passed Sport and won by two lengths. Time—2 mins. 17½ secs.

The "RED FISH" CUP, presented; second pony to receive the entrance fees; for all beaten griffins at this meeting; weight for inches as per scale; allowances:—unplaced Derby griffins 5lbs., unplaced subscription griffins 7lbs.; entrance \$5; fourth day winners barred. One mile and a half.

Mr. David's Foeman, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Jones) 1

Mr. Derrick Hunter's Blue Fire, 11st. 11lb. (Mr. Master) 2

Mr. Trio's Polo, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Sampson) 3

Polo obtain a slight lead at the start and had the advantage when passing the grand stand for the first time, the ponies being well together. At the plantation Blue Fire got almost abreast of Polo, and so they ran to the village, where Foeman came up and in the straight got abreast of the other two. Half-way up the straight Polo was beaten and the race was left to Blue Fire and Foeman, the latter winning by a length. Time—3 mins. 17½ secs.

The "LUCKY" CUP, presented; second pony to receive the entrance fees; for beaten subscription griffins of this season; ponies that have run second penalised 3 lbs.; unplaced ponies allowed 3 lbs.; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$5; fourth day winners barred. Three-quarters of a mile.

Mr. Tilbro's Wakeful Joe, 10st. 12lb. (Mr. Sampson) 1

Mr. Sam's Sunflower, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Penny) 2

Mr. Wayfoong's Cumshaw, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Jones) 3

Mr. David's Demterlie, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Cox) 0

Messrs. G. Stewart & Loveband's Harkaway, 10st. 13lbs. (Capt. Loveband) 0

The start was a particularly bad one and the ponies at once formed a procession, with Wakeful Joe at the head and Harkaway and Sunflower next. Going up the hill Wakeful Joe went right away from the others, and soon afterwards the field became closer. Down the hill Sunflower passed Harkaway, but in the straight Harkaway came out again and tried hard to pass, but Sunflower and Cumshaw were whipped up and a

good race home ensued. Wakeful Joe passing the post a length ahead of Sunflower, half a length between second and third. Time—1 min. 40 secs.

The MAFOOS' CHAMPIONS; first prize, \$25, second prize, \$15; third prize, \$5; For winners only; weight 10st.; entrance \$5. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Boyd's Dunblane (Mouse) 1  
Mr. Peel's Boomerang (The Old Man) 2  
Mr. Buxey's Black Eagle (Monkey) 3  
Mr. Buxey's White Rose (Tientsin) 0  
Mr. Dryasdust's Gauntlet (Ah Foo) 0  
The Neighbours' Landsturn (Schumann) 0

A good start was made and White Rose at once took the lead followed by Dunblane and Boomerang. They kept the same order to the bridge, when Dunblane got abreast of White Rose, whom he passed at the rock. White Rose was now being rapidly overtaken by Black Eagle and Boomerang. In the straight Dunblane took a long lead and won anyhow; two and a half lengths between second and third. Time—3 mins. 39 secs.

The HONGKONG STEEPLECHASE CUP; for all China ponies; previous winners of a steeplechase 7 lbs. extra; entrance \$5 to go to second pony; over a course selected by the Stewards; six to start or no race.

Mr. Worthy's Bellringer, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Cox) 1

Messrs. G. Stewart and Loveband's Hasteaway, 11st. 6lbs. (2lbs. overweight) (Capt. Loveband) 0

Mr. Hart Buck's Voltigeur, 11st. 1lb. (Owner) 0

Mr. Stern's Bravo, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Gresson) 0

Voltigeur soon got the lead, being followed by Bellringer. At the second hurdle Hasteaway bucked and obstinately refused to clear and on passing the stand Voltigeur was leading by three lengths. At the third obstacle Voltigeur and Bellringer were pretty close together, but they soon afterwards separated and Voltigeur again got a good lead. When the two ponies cleared the second hurdle again Hasteaway went with them, but at the water jump a nasty accident happened, Voltigeur stumbling and throwing Mr. Buck on his head, while Captain Loveband was also thrown, Bellringer thus being enabled to come in alone. As soon as Mr. Buck fell Dr. Atkinson and Surgeon-Captain Edey proceeded with all haste to the spot where he lay. Restoratives were applied and the unfortunate jockey was removed in an ambulance to the Government Civil Hospital under the care of Dr. Atkinson. Captain Loveband was fortunately unhurt.

The "PINEAPPLE" CUP, presented; for all beaten ponies at this meeting; placed ponies 5lbs. extra; griffins of this season allowed 5lbs.; subscription griffins of this season allowed 10lbs.; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$5 to go to second pony; fourth day winners barred. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Buxey's Comet, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Cox) 1

Mr. Trio's Polo, 11st. (2lbs. overweight) (Capt. Loveband) 2

Mr. Jay's Sperber, 10st. 10lbs. (Mr. Master) 3

Mr. Bobjack's Sinful, 10st. 10lbs. (Mr. Jones) 0

Mr. Dryasdust's Shiney Villiam, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Hunt) 0

Shiney Villiam was left six lengths behind when the flag fell, but in the straight he was third, Comet being first and Sperber second. At the bridge Shiney Villiam passed Sperber, while Polo was four lengths behind, but in the straight Polo came up gamely and caught up Comet and Sperber and a fine race home ended in a victory for Comet by two lengths; half a length between second and third. Time—2 mins 44 secs.

The MAFOOS' RACE; first prize, \$20; second prize, 10; third prize, \$5; for all beaten ponies; weight 10st.; entrance \$5. Once round.

Mr. Peel's Tocsin (The Old Man) 1  
Mr. Boyd's Ongo (Mouse) 2  
Mr. Arnold's Straightforward (Punch) 3  
Messrs. McKie & Gove's Glendubb (Goose) 0  
Mr. Boyd's Kartush (Tientsin) 0  
Mr. Gustav's Red Fire (Chin-sin) 0  
Mr. Peel's Heatherbell (Kirin) 0  
Mr. Gustav's Competitor (Schumann) 0  
Mr. Bobjack's Saucy (Q.C.) 0

The winner was behind at the start, but he came up in the straight and won by four lengths. Time—1 min. 55 secs.

SAILORS' RACE; first prize, \$25; second, \$15; third, \$10. Once round.

Sport (Wright, H.M.S. Centurion) 1

Castor (Parlar, H.M.S. Porpoise) 2

Vicat (Jeffrey, H.M.S. Victor Emmanuel) 3

The sailors always provide plenty of amusement for themselves as well as for the spectators and the present race was no exception to the rule. There were nine runners and it was most interesting to see the merry Jack Tars racing as if for their lives and lovingly clinging, as some of them did, to the ponies' necks.

#### WINNING OWNERS AND JOCKEYS.

The following is a list of the winning owners and jockeys during this meeting, excluding of course the Off Day. Amongst the owners Messrs. McKie and Gove have a very good record with no fewer than nine wins, while of the jockeys Mr. Crawford heads the list with ten wins, Mr. Master being second with eight. In the dead heat in the Valley Stakes on the first day a win has been counted to each owner and jockey—Messrs. G. Stewart & Loveband and Mr. Medico (owners), and Captain Loveband and Mr. Reynell (jockeys).

OWNERS	JOCKEYS
Messrs. McKie and Gove 9	Mr. Crawford 10
Mr. John Peel 7	Mr. Master 8
Mr. Buxey 5	Mr. Reynell 6
Mr. Dryasdust 2	Mr. Hunt 2
Mr. Boyd 1	Mr. Hart Buck 1
Mr. Hart Buck 1	Mr. Cox 1
Mr. David 1	Mr. Jones 1
Mr. Medico 1	Capt. Loveband 1
Dr. Noble 1	Mr. Sampson 1
The Neighbours 1	
Mr. Stern 1	
Messrs. G. Stewart & Loveband 1	

#### SALE OF RACE PONIES.

At three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon Mr. T. F. Hough placed his left foot on the British lion at the north corner of the waterless fountain opposite the City Hall and commenced what he called the "annual sale of blood-stock." This sale of race ponies always attracts a large number of people, and yesterday the steps of the fountain were as thick as ever with Chinese of both the coolie and the higher classes, the great unwashed being in the greater proportion, while a number of the leading English sports surrounded the arena in which the ponies walked in order to display their points. The bidding was rarely keen and most of the fun was at the commencement. One gentleman, Mr. Wah Hing, had some curious notions of auctioneering. Premier was put up and \$20 was offered for him. Mr. Wah Hing thereupon offered \$17. He was told to get up a little more soon morning time and then he relented and bid \$25. Somebody topped this and Mr. Hing, determined to be a horse-owner, shouted \$30, at which price the Premier was knocked down. But the Oriental was still somewhat puzzled. He claimed to have bid only \$25, whereupon Mr. Hough settled the vexed question by telling him that suppose he no pay he go gaol topside. No further pleasantry was necessary and the sale proceeded. For each pony Mr. Hough had an encouraging word; indeed he seemed to read the innermost thoughts of every animal and to be able to tell the purchasers exactly what the gee-gees intended to do on changing owners—most useful acquisitions in the auctioneering profession. Dacapo, which was bought in for \$200, was said to be the most honest pony that ever looked through a bridle; Glendubb, the "piece de resistance" of the auction, was as good a bit of stuff as was ever on the racecourse, and he was sold to Mr. Leroux for \$250. Other ponies would have won most of the best prizes, but they were badly trained, or they were off colour, or well, there were various other excellent reasons advanced for their non-success. The race ponies were sold for the following prices: Swindle, \$15; Mr. Hill, Presto, \$15; Mr. Marques, Tommy, \$25; Mr. Tam Ho, Bluejacket, \$20; Mr. Kennedy, See Saw, \$15; Mr. Kennedy, Scout, \$10; Mr. Marques, Cockleshell, \$25; Mr. Hill, Bluebell, \$35; Mr. Kennedy, Pollux, \$30; Mr. Kennedy,



Crabapple, \$400; Dr. Noble, Gladiator, \$20; Mr. Wah Hing, Humbug, \$190; Captain Burney, Red Fire, \$175; Hon. F. H. May; Wakeful Joe, \$220; Mr. Kennedy; Little Owl, \$55; Mr. Hill, Glentilt, \$40; Mr. Hill, Enery Awkins, \$100; Mr. A. H. Rennie; Otter, \$55; Mr. Kennedy; Polo, \$300; Mr. Hastings; Sperber, \$30; Mr. Kennedy; Chestnuts, \$15; Mr. Tam Ho; Chin-chin, \$25; Mr. Thomson; Arthurlie, \$145; Mr. Hill; Dumterlie, \$30; Mr. Kennedy; Exile, \$30; Mr. Wah Hing; Bokowpun, \$30; Mr. Kennedy; Croxton, \$205; Mr. Kennedy; Nar-cissus, \$35; Mr. Kennedy; Cumshaw, \$60; Mr. Hastings. In addition to these ponies others without names were sold. The following were bought in at the prices named—Flaneur, \$15; Tarses, \$10; Grey Leg, \$100; Competitor, \$120; Dacapo, \$200; Kartush, \$115; Sun-flower, \$145; Landsturm, \$30; Query, \$25; The Rogue, \$50; an Australian horse, \$150.

### HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LIMITED.

The ordinary yearly meeting of the shareholders in the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, was held at the offices of the Company, Praya Central, on the 22nd Feb. at noon. Mr. St. C. Michaelsen presided and there were also present Messrs. J. H. Lewis, N. A. Siebs, J. S. Van Buren, Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, C. Beurmann (Directors), D. Gillies (Chief Manager), T. I. Rose (Secretary), V. H. Deacon (Solicitor), Paul Jordan, H. Wicking, J. R. Michael, G. C. Anderson, T. Arnold, G. H. Potts, R. Mitchell, G. Murray Bain, F. Dodwell, G. C. Cox, W. Parfitt, Fullerton Henderson, C. A. Tones, C. S. Sharp, H. Humphreys, E. S. Wheeler, and M. H. Michael.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been in your hands for some time I will, with your permission, take them as read. It affords your Directors great pleasure in meeting you again to-day with such very favourable results. Though the last half year has not been a record one as far as the net result is concerned, the latter must nevertheless be considered highly satisfactory. We are in a position to again propose a dividend of 8 per cent. and a bonus of 4 per cent. together absorbing \$187,500, and to recommend a bonus of \$20,000 to contributing shareholders, a bonus of \$20,500 to our foreign employees, representing 15 per cent. on their salaries, that a sum of about \$61,000 be written off from the value of our Kowloon and Cosmopolitan establishments, to place a further sum of two lach to the credit of the reserve fund, thus increasing the latter to \$600,000, and to carry forward the balance of \$104,104.71 to new account. As you will see, we are thus dealing with an available total amount of \$593,360.34 in a manner I trust in every respect satisfactory to shareholders. The gross earnings for the last half year are the largest on record, exceeding those of the preceding six months by about \$120,000. At the same time the cost of labour, material, and working expenses of the Company's establishments are greater by some \$240,000, labour showing an approximate increase of \$66,133 and material \$173,866. This disparity can, however, be easily explained, being accounted for partly by the lack of large vessels with extensive repairs, which on several former occasions have left us such handsome returns—repairs of that kind generally resulting in larger profits than those of small vessels undergoing the usual overhaul for wear and tear—and partly by many of the new vessels constructed by the Company leaving but a small profit, in some instances none; and as the amount of the bills rendered for building new vessels during the period under review was over \$275,000 it forms, as you will observe, a large portion of our gross earnings. Furthermore I may mention that to meet our customers and to retain the work in the colony we have in several instances been content with smaller profits. However, considering all the circumstances, I have no doubt that you will all agree with me that we have every reason to be fully satisfied with the results before us. To overtake the large increase in our business it has been necessary to run the engineering, boiler, and ship repairing

establishments almost night and day. As this method of doing work is, however, not only costly but in many cases unsatisfactory, your Directors think that the time has come, not only for making further additions to our machine shops, but also to an enlargement of our whole establishment at Kowloon; and by so doing we hope to save not only much time and labour but subsequently to enter on a more extensive sphere of business. I just mentioned that the work had been going on almost constantly night and day, and you will therefore understand that the capacity of our staff has again been heavily taxed. Their services were, however, in every instance given most willingly and cheerfully, and the heartiest thanks of all of us are therefore due to every one, from the highest to the lowest, and I have no doubt that you will most cordially approve of the bonus of 15 per cent. to be given to them in recognition of their incessant work and labour, as they fully deserve it. Turning to the accounts once more, you will, I have no doubt, agree with me that it is good policy to go on writing off fair amounts and thus further strengthen our position, though our book values have already been brought down to a satisfactorily low level. Our three establishments, after writing off the \$61,255.63 as proposed, stand at \$1,425,000, certainly a very moderate figure for such complete and magnificent establishments. Our stock of material is less than six months ago by about \$100,000, but with our ever increasing business it is absolutely necessary to always keep a large stock on hand, so as to be able to meet all wants and needs of the many vessels that come to us. As a rule, our stock has been valued at the end of each year by one expert, but this time we had the work done by two, so as to be quite sure of the correctness and value of the stock, and you will be pleased to know that the report of the two valuers appointed by us proves that the amount shown in our books is actually less than the cost price. Interest account, you will be glad to notice, appears for the first time on the credit side of our revenue account; the amount is still small, but in subsequent reports it will be greater. In connection herewith I may mention that it has been suggested to employ our funds which we do not use in the ordinary run of our business in a better paying way than leaving them on fixed deposit account. However, our present deposit of \$200,000 runs off some time in June; when that time draws near your directors will fully discuss the advisability of investing the amount at our disposal in some way that will yield a better return. We have not discussed this point recently; therefore I speak for myself only when I say that on principle I am against any investment of funds of a public company, like the Dock Company in shares. We may eventually, however, place some of the money on mortgage; anyhow, the matter will in due course receive the fullest attention of your Directors. As stated in the report, it was found on inspection that the wood under water of No. 1 slip was completely destroyed and that the whole of it must be renewed. One need hardly be surprised at this, as the wood of the slip in question was laid more than 20 years ago and it could not be expected to last for a longer period. The slip has done very good service during all these years and we can therefore well afford the necessary outlay on it. The repairs will be finished in about six months and the slip will then be just as good as new, especially so as in the reconstruction we shall use a better class of timber that will suffer less from the action of the sea water. The new houses for the European foremen at Kowloon are nearly completed and will add materially to the health and comfort of the staff, so that we hope to have less sickness and fewer invalids than in the past. On a former occasion you were informed that our proposals for the construction of a new dry dock at Hung Hom were not favourably received by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, who decided that under all the circumstances of the case the terms of the Dock Company were inadmissible. I must say that we had worked out these proposals most carefully and that we considered them in every respect very fair to both contracting parties, but that may be a matter of opinion. We have, however, under contemplation fresh proposals on a somewhat

different basis and it is just possible that these may find more favour at the hands of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty. You will excuse me if I refrain from making any further remarks on this subject or giving you any fuller details at present. You will be furnished with these on a later occasion as soon as we are in a position to speak more freely about it. I may mention here that I found a paragraph in one of the home papers just to hand by last mail stating that H.M.S. *Powerful* could not be placed in any dock in the East. In reply to this I wish to state that we have already been in correspondence with the Commander-in-Chief on the Station with regard to this matter and have advised him that H.M.S. *Powerful* and *Terrible* could be taken into the No. 1 dock at Kowloon, there being sufficient water and ample accommodation. In view of the necessary enlargement of our works at Kowloon already alluded to, I shall have a resolution to propose to you later on, which I trust will meet with your approval. Regarding our Articles of Association which were remodelled in 1869 with various subsequent additions and alterations, it has been found on many occasions that they are no longer up to date and proved to be defective in many respects. Your Directors therefore have under contemplation a revision of them and as soon as the necessary alterations have been made they will be submitted for your approval. This undertaking will of course have to be carried out by the advice of the Company's solicitor. In concluding my remarks, I am very glad to be able to state that our prospects of work in the future continue to be very promising, and I have pleasure in saying that the returns for the month of January are very favourable and we have also every reason to hope that the returns for February will be equally good. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be pleased to answer to the best of my ability any questions that shareholders may desire to ask.

Mr. WICKING—Mr. Chairman, I should like to make one or two remarks. I hear from Singapore that the Company there is putting down very extensive machinery and further plant. I think it is most desirable that as much speed as possible should be exercised in the getting on with the extension of our workshops. The machine shop at Kowloon is one of the most perfect on this side of the Suez Canal, but I think the foundry and the blacksmith's shop are by no means what they should be in comparison with the other shops. At Singapore they are doing so much that it is highly desirable that the improvements here should be made with as much haste as possible. The *Belgic* is lying here waiting for repairs which the Company are unable to do, because they cannot supply a new shafting and it was necessary to send to England for it. This is very unsatisfactory and should be remedied as soon as possible.

The CHAIRMAN—In reply I may say that the directors have had in contemplation further extensions to the machine shop, as I have stated in my speech. As you have referred to the foundry and the blacksmith's shop I may say they will be rebuilt in a certain time and no doubt every improvement will be made. I assure you that we have it in view to be in future quite up to date in all our establishments.

Mr. WICKING—I am very glad to hear you say so. Your explanation is very satisfactory.

The CHAIRMAN—I beg to propose the adoption of the report and accounts as presented.

Mr. WICKING—May I make one more remark?

The CHAIRMAN—Certainly.

Mr. WICKING—In your remarks you said you were not in favour of investing any of the funds of the Company in local companies. In my opinion many of the local companies are as safe as any bank in this or in any part of the world; and it is a well-known fact that one or two of our local companies have invested in shares in other companies with remarkably good results. I do not wish to mention names, because you might think I am interested in them; but I hope the directors will consider this matter in conjunction perhaps with the other suggestion of the companies in Hongkong and as high-class companies in the world and of course it is worth considering whether our local companies



are not worth investing in. I speak from thirty years' experience and I know no companies are better managed, or more straightforward, safer, and more trustworthy, and they are controlled by the best people in the colony.

The CHAIRMAN—As I stated in my speech I only gave my personal opinion on this subject. I may say that the matter will have the directors' serious attention when it comes before them again.

Mr. WHEELER—I have much pleasure in seconding your proposal, and in doing so I do not think I need add anything to the very full remarks the Chairman has made upon the subject. Not very many years ago, when the Admiralty Dock was being built, some of the shareholders criticised the necessity for the dock, and I think it is very pleasant for those of us who then thought that dock superfluous to see a row of steamers waiting to get into it. (Applause.) I think the progress of the Company during the last four years has been extraordinary. I do not think any Company out here has had equal success, and that success has been largely due to the foresight of the Managers and Directors. I think those of us who have anything to do with the actual work at the Dock will heartily approve of the Directors' proposal to give a bonus to the employees who have worked so hard and have enabled you to carry on the very large business which gives us such a large return on our capital. (Applause.)

Carried.

Mr. ARNOLD proposed the confirmation of the appointment of Mr. C. Beurmann as director.

Mr. G. H. Potts seconded.

Carried.

Mr. F. DODWELL proposed the re-election of Messrs. Siebs and Van Buren as directors.

Mr. PARFITT seconded.

Carried.

Mr. JORDAN proposed the re-election of Messrs. T. Arnold and S. G. Bird as auditors.

Mr. B. MITCHELL seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I now beg to propose another resolution of which you have had notice in the papers. The resolution is—"That this Company do purchase from the owners thereof Hunghom Inland Lots Nos. 171 and 172 for the residues of the Crown terms of years therein for the price of \$5,000 to be paid in cash and do surrender the same lots to the Crown and do also surrender Kowloon Marine Lot No. 72 to the Crown and obtain from the Crown a new Crown lease thereof with an extension thereto to be purchased by this Company from the Government of Hongkong for the price of \$9,639, such extension containing 192,768 square feet and to be purchased for a term of 999 years from the 16th November, 1864, at the additional yearly rent of \$483, and do also accept the terms for purchasing an extension to Hunghom Marine Lot No. 1 contained in the letter of the Honourable the Director of Public Works to Mr. Gillies dated the 24th July, 1896, No. 888."

Mr. LEWIS seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. I think you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready on application at the office to-morrow.

### HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN CO., LIMITED.

The tenth ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, was held on Tuesday, at noon, at the Company's Office, No. 4, Praya Central. Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving presided and there were also present Hon. C. P. Chater, Messrs. M. D. Ezekiel, E. S. Wheeler, C. S. Sharp, H. A. Ritchie, C. Beurmann, P. Sachse, St. C. Michaelsen, N. A. Siebs, and D. R. Sassoon (Directors); E. Osborne (Secretary); R. C. Wilcox, J. Goosmann, W. H. Gaskell, P. Jordan, B. E. Koshavar, Ho Tung, and Ho Fook.

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, as is usual, I propose to take it for granted that you have read the report, which has been in your hands or some days. It deals with the tenth year of the Company's existence, and the accounts, which in their new form are, I hope, clear to every shareholder, show the gross receipts and net profits to be the largest since the Company's formation. A satisfactory feature in connection with these receipts is that they have been earned entirely on what might be called solid business, that is to say, there have been no windfalls or exceptional sources of revenue as in former years, and the figures quoted may be accepted as an indication of the normal business of the Company. The expenses unfortunately keep pace with the receipts, but this is only what must be expected, seeing that a large proportion of our revenue is derived from a class of work in which the profits are the profits on labour, and in which the Company has to meet the competition of natives in the same line of business. During the early months of the year it became evident to your Directors that the rates quoted by the Company were insufficient to yield even a moderate return on your capital, and they were of opinion that circumstances justified a small increase. This small increase, which was made applicable equally to the landing and sorting business, took effect from 1st September last, and the accounts for the year have therefore benefitted by the change to the extent of four months only. An important event of the year's working was the acquisition of the Wanchai Warehouse and Storage Company's business, the details of which I need not trouble you with. Suffice it to say that the arrangement practically amounts to the Wharf Company guaranteeing an 8 per cent. dividend on the paid-up capital of the Wanchai Company for ten years, in return for which the latter hand over their premises and goodwill, and retire from active business for that period. So far as can be seen at present the direct profits alone, resulting from this acquisition, justify the step taken, and there have been indirect benefits which made it desirable and should have an important bearing on the future of the Wharf Co. The West Point godowns are practically completed and already earning a fair amount from storage. The Directors look for good results from the working of these godowns, and should their expectations be realised it is in contemplation to build two more on the site of the present transit shed. As pointed out in my remarks at our last year's meeting, the Company's assets represented by land and buildings stand in the books at a figure considerably below their real value, and the perishable properties, such as wharves, launches, lighters, rolling stock, &c., have been written down to a point representing as near as possible their actual worth to-day. Nevertheless, the suggested appropriation of profits will, I trust, merit the approval of shareholders, who will doubtless agree with the Board in recognising the necessity of writing down the perishable property, and making liberal provision for repairs, which must at times constitute a heavy drain on the Company's resources. The repairs for the year were large, costing \$23,356, and in accordance with the suggestion in last year's report, and which was approved by shareholders, this amount has been debited to depreciation and repairs account, which, after transferring to it \$15,000 from working account, now stands with a credit balance of \$73,130. With the renewal of No. 2 wharf, which will be shortly completed, the wharves will be in first-class order, and should not under ordinary circumstances require any large expenditure for some years. It must be borne in mind, however, that the life of a wooden wharf in these waters is approximately of only from 10 to 15 years' duration, and provision must be made accordingly. Before closing I should like to refer to a matter touched upon in the report, viz., the plague, which with us, as with all large employers of labour, constitutes a very serious menace to our business; even more so perhaps to the Wharf Company than other industrial establishments, because a plentiful supply of cheap labour is with us a sine qua non. Everything that we can do in the way of clean and healthy dwellings for our employees is carefully attended to, and it is to be hoped

the precautions thus taken will be efficacious to the Company in the event of a recurrence of the disease this summer. These are all the remarks I have to make. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

There were no questions and the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and passing of the accounts.

Mr. GASKELL seconded.

Carried.

Mr. P. JORDAN proposed that the appointment of Messrs E. S. Wheeler, H. A. Ritchie, C. Beurmann, and P. Sachse to the Board of Directors be confirmed, and that Messrs M. D. Ezekiel and N. A. Siebs be re-elected directors.

Mr. WILCOX seconded.

Carried.

Mr. GOOSMANN proposed the re-election of Messrs. F. Henderson and W. H. Potts as auditors.

Mr. Ho Tung seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business of the meeting, gentlemen. Dividend warrants will be issued to-morrow morning.

The following is the report:—

The directors have now to submit to shareholders their report with a statement of accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1896.

#### ACCOUNTS.

The gross revenue derived from wharfage, landing, &c. amounted in 1896 to \$339,114.91 as against \$289,481.02 the previous year, showing an increase of \$49,633.89.

The balance at credit of profit and loss after paying interim dividend of 2½ per cent. is \$64,508.98, which it is proposed to appropriate as follows:—

Directors' and Auditors' fees	\$ 6,500.00
Final Dividend of 2½ per cent.	25,000.00
Transfer to Depreciation and	
Repairs account	15,000.00
Write off Launches	1,825.00
Write off Lighters	3,670.19
Write off Furniture and Plant	2,394.38
Carry forward to new account	10,119.41

\$64,508.98

#### BUSINESS.

The business of the Company has continued to develop and, apart from the work attaching to Wanchai, the cargo handled during 1896 was 506,551 tons against 450,877 tons in 1895.

The presence of plague during the summer months again caused a scarcity of labour and it was with difficulty the staff of coolies were prevented from leaving the colony.

#### WANCHAI GODOWNS.

Arrangements were made in June last with the Wanchai Warehouse and Storage Company to lease their Godowns and good-will for ten years from 1st July, 1896, and the Directors are pleased to say that the results of the business thus acquired have so far proved of substantial benefit.

#### BUILDINGS.

The new West Point Godowns are nearly finished and would have been completed by contract date but for the bankruptcy of the Contractor and the difficulty of obtaining suitable wood for the roof timbers.

Six new Chinese houses are in course of erection at Kowloon, making 20 in all, the whole of which have been leased for three years at a satisfactory rental.

#### LAUNCHES.

The *Heron* has been sold and a new and more suitable tug-boat is under construction.

#### LIGHTERS.

In addition to the two decked lighters referred to in last report the Company has built six open cargo boats of native design which have proved of great utility in the work afloat.

#### WHARVES.

The repairs to No. 2 wharf are nearly completed and when finished the wharves should not require much expenditure for some time to come.

#### DIRECTORS.

Mr. G. B. Dodwell, Mr. A. Woolley, and Mr. J. Kramer having resigned upon leaving the colony their places have been taken respectively by Mr. E. S. Wheeler, Mr. H. A. Ritchie, and Mr. C. Beurmann. Mr. P. Sachse



has also accepted a seat on the Board and the appointments of these gentlemen require confirmation.

Messrs. M. D. Ezekiel and N. A. Siebs retire in rotation according to the articles of association, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

#### AUDITORS.

Mr. T. I. Rose having resigned, the Board appointed Mr. W. H. Potts in his place.

Messrs. F. Henderson and W. H. Potts have audited the accounts now presented, and the directors recommend them for re-election.

J. J. BELL-IRVING, Chairman.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1897.

#### BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1896.

Dr.		LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
To capital (20,000 shares at \$50 fully paid-up)		1,000,000.00		
To Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation		\$99,248.47		
To debentures outstanding		500,000.00		
To sundry creditors		55,594.29		
		654,842.76		
To depreciation and repairs account		73,130.70		
To dividend account (unclaimed balance)		493.75		
To profit and loss account, balance		10,119.41		
		\$1,738,586.62		
Cr.		ASSETS.	\$	c.
By value of land and buildings at Kowloon as per last account		1,213,590.01		
By since expended on new houses, &c.		5,883.18		
		1,219,473.19		
By value of 4 wharves at Kowloon		100,000.00		
By value of rolling stock at Kowloon		22,000.00		
By value of launches Kowloon, Hongkong, and Heron as per last account		12,325.00		
Less sale of Heron		1,500.00		
		\$10,825.00		
Since expended on new tug		3,000.00		
		12,000.00		
Less written off		1,825.00		
		\$20,898.63		
By value of lighters as per last account		\$21,048.63		
Less loss on sale of lighter 11		150.00		
		\$20,898.63		
Since expended on new lighters		19,271.56		
		\$40,170.19		
Less written off		3,670.19		
		36,500.00		
By value of West Point reclamation (44,435 square feet at \$4)		\$177,740.00		
By West Point Godown \$9,399.51				
By new godowns as per last account		\$1,052.00		
Since expended on new godowns		36,690.03		
		37,742.03		
		47,141.45		
		224,881.54		
By value of West Point wharf		15,000.00		
By value of sheers		500.00		
By value of furniture and plant as per last account		\$8,262.97		
Since expended on additional furniture and plant, &c.		631.41		
		\$8,894.38		
Less written off		2,394.38		
		6,500.00		
By Sui Lock Hing (mortgage)		15,000.00		
By sundry debtors		53,086.10		
By Hongkong Bank (unclaimed dividend account)		493.75		
By cash in hand		852.47		
By value of stationery on hand		727.55		
By value of coal on hand		327.51		
By value of timber, iron, and stores on hand for repairing wharves, &c.		31,244.51		
		\$1,738,586.62		

#### WORKING ACCOUNT.

Dr.		\$	c.
To wages of permanent staff		68,806.42	
To Crown rent		8,286.86	
To taxes		9,578.42	
To charges (office and telephone rent, stationery, and printing, collecting commission, sundries, &c.)		9,960.90	
To local expenses		369.12	
To fire insurance		1,390.98	
To claims on cargo		1,083.03	
To expenses on cargo and coal, coolie hire, &c.		126,397.15	
To expenses of lighters		2,139.17	
To expenses of launches		4,161.90	
To account 1895		37.42	
To balance to profit and loss		106,554.08	
		\$339,260.46	

Cr.		\$	c.
By wharfage, storing, landing, &c.		389,114.91	
By bonus for 1895; fire insurance account		145.54	
		\$389,260.45	

#### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.		\$	c.
To purchase of fractional certificates		48.13	
To loss on sale of lighter 11		150.00	
To interest		30,443.81	
To interim dividend		25,000.00	
To balance appropriated as follows:—			
Directors' and auditors' fees		\$ 6,500.00	
Final dividend		25,000.00	
Transfer to depreciation and repairs account		15,000.00	
Amount written off launches		1,825.00	
Amount written off lighters		3,670.19	
Amount written off furniture and plant		2,394.38	
Amount carried to new account		10,119.41	
		64,508.98	

Cr.		\$	c.
By transfer from working account 1895		13,316.59	
By transfer from working account 1896		106,554.08	
By unclaimed dividends written off		275.25	
		\$120,145.92	

#### DEPRECIATION AND REPAIRS ACCOUNT.

Dr.		\$	c.
To repairs, renewals and improvements during 1896		23,356.76	
To balance		73,130.70	
		\$96,487.46	

Cr.		\$	c.
By balance from 1895		81,487.46	
By transfer from profit and loss account		15,000.00	
		\$96,487.46	

#### THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the Directors to the shareholders for the year ending 31st December, 1896:—

To the shareholders of the National Bank of China, Limited.

Gentlemen,—The Directors have now the pleasure to submit to you the accounts and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1896.

The net profits including \$4,218.84 brought forward from the previous year, after paying all charges, amount to \$62,334.46, from which we propose to transfer \$12,000 to the reserve fund and to pay the same dividend as before, i.e., 2s. 6d. per share, this at 2s. 1d. 7-16ths (the demand sterling rate on 31st December)=\$1.18 out here, which absorbs \$47,784.54, leaving the sum of \$2,599.92 to be carried forward to next account.

Mr. Stolterfoht and Mr. Kwan Hoi Chuen retire in rotation from the Head Office Board and Mr. Wotton from the London Committee, and being eligible for re-election offer themselves accordingly.

The accounts at the Head Office have been audited by Messrs. J. H. Cox and W. Hutton Potts and in London by Messrs. Deloitte, Deven & Griffiths, Chartered Accountants.—Your obedient servant,

HERM STOLTERFOHT,  
Chairman.

Hongkong, 9th February, 1897.

#### BALANCE SHEET 31st DECEMBER, 1896.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital, 750 fully paid founders' shares of £1 each (at par of 3s.)		5,000.00	
Capital, partly paid, £325,144 (at par of 3s.)		2,167,626.65	
Reserve fund		70,000.00	
Notes in circulation		498,785.00	
Fixed deposits, current and other accounts.		3,799,150.98	
On drafts, acceptances and endorsements (bills re-discounted)		2,120,827.76	
Balance of profit and loss account		62,334.46	
		\$9,633,724.35	
ASSETS.		\$	c.
Cash on hand and at Bankers		912,470.40	
Government securities belonging to the Bank		700,236.79	
Bills receivable, loans and advances		6,811,370.66	
Furniture, stationery, and stamps		38,830.30	
Adjusting account (exchange and interest)		370,897.70	
		\$9,633,724.35	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 31st DECEMBER, 1896.		\$	c.
Charges, directors' fees, and salaries		112,441.45	
Amount to be placed to reserve fund		\$12,000.00	
Dividend account, proposed payment of \$1.18 per share on 40,453 shares, 2s. 6d. per share at exchange of 2s. 1d. 7-16ths		47,784.54	
Balance to be carried forward to next account		2,599.92	
		\$62,334.46	

Cr.		\$	c.
Balance brought forward from last year		4,218.84	
Gross earning for year ending 31st Dec., 1896		170,537.05	
		\$174,755.89	

RESERVE FUND, 31st DECEMBER, 1896.		\$	c.
To account carried forward		\$82,000.00	
		\$82,000.00	

Cr.		\$	c.
By amount brought forward from last year		\$70,000.00	
By amount now to be added, as above		12,000.00	
		\$82,000.00	

#### THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the Directors to be presented at the ordinary meeting of shareholders, to be held at the Company's Hotel, at noon on Saturday next:—

In accordance with section 53 of the articles of association, the Directors have now to submit to the shareholders their half-yearly report for the six months ending 31st December, 1896.

#### ACCOUNTS.

The profit on working account for the six months amounted to \$24,110.76, as compared with \$24,259.56 for the corresponding period of 1895, being a decrease of \$148.80.

The profit and loss account, including \$24.45 brought forward, shows a credit balance of \$7,447.38, after writing off \$22,000 from furniture and fixtures as recommended in last report and paying \$4,984.22 for repairs and improvements to buildings, furniture, &c.

The Directors propose to deal with the balance as follows:—

Write off furniture and fixtures	\$5,000.00
Transfer to repairs and renewals account as mentioned below	2,000.00
Carry forward to new account	447.38
	\$7,447.38

#### BUSINESS.

The business of the Hotel has continued to improve, with the exception of the bar and billiard room custom, and the Directors attribute the falling off in these departments mainly to the closing of Pedder's Wharf and consequent diversion of traffic.

On the completion of the new wharf (which they trust will not be much longer delayed) they hope for a resumption of receipts on the basis of former years. The presence of plague in the colony during the summer months also acted adversely on the Company's business, but in spite of these drawbacks the revenue from other sources shows satisfactory improvement.

The shops and offices under the building continue to be satisfactorily let, and the demand for such accommodation, owing to the extremely central position of the Hotel, is always in excess of the supply.

#### REPAIRS AND RENEWALS ACCOUNT.

With a view to provide in a more systematic manner for the repairs and renewals to buildings, furniture, and fixtures, the Board propose, with the approval of shareholders, to open an account to be called repairs and renewals account, and commencing with the current year, to credit the account with a minimum sum of \$6,000 half-yearly from the profits, and thus make each half-year's working bear an equal proportion of the charge for repairs, &c., which in a business like that carried on by the Company must necessarily vary very much from year to year.

#### STAFF.

Mr. J. C. Goodchild was appointed Manager on the 12th September last.

#### DIRECTORS.

Messrs. R. Osborne and R. C. Wallis retire by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.



## AUDIT.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. W. H. Gaskell, who are recommended for re-election.

EDWARD OSBORNE,  
Chairman,

Hongkong, 23rd February, 1897.

## BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1896.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital—			
8,879 shares at \$50 each (fully paid up) ...	443,950.00		
Mortgage to Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Limited.....	500,000.00		
Accounts payable .....	22,831.30		
Profit and loss account .....	7,447.38		
	\$974,228.68		
ASSETS.		\$	c.
Value of land and buildings as per last report:—			
Marine Lot No. 5, and remaining portion of Marine Lot No. 3 .....	\$412,523.04		
Remaining portion of Marine Lot No. 7 .....	408,157.26		
Praya reclamation .....	18,036.42		
	838,716.72		
Value of furniture and fixtures as per last report .....	\$82,948.14		
Less written off as recommended in last report .....	22,000.00		
	\$60,948.14		
Since added .....	13,988.83		
	74,936.97		
Stock of wines and provisions .....	21,913.67		
Steam launch .....	2,500.00		
Cash .....	354.16		
Shares in public companies .....	7,019.19		
Licences attaching to 1897 .....	570.00		
Fire insurance, 1897 .....	2,379.45		
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation .....	13,595.56		
Accounts receivable .....	11,492.21		
Suspense account .....	250.05		
	\$974,228.68		

## PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1896.

Dr.		\$	c.
To Crown rent .....	365.89		
To directors' and auditors' fees .....	1,650.00		
To rates and taxes .....	2,840.50		
To fire insurance .....	1,101.00		
To repairs and renewals .....	4,984.22		
To interest account .....	16,084.11		
To bad debts and refunds attaching to year 1895-1896 .....	198.96		
To balance .....	7,447.38		
	\$34,872.06		
Cr.		\$	c.
By balance from 30th June, 1896. \$22,024.45 .....			
By less written off furniture and fixtures as recommended in last report .....	22,000.00		
	24.45		
By rents of shops and offices .....	10,356.85		
By dividends on shares .....	180.00		
By profit on working account for six months ending 31st December, 1896 .....	24,110.76		
	\$34,872.06		

## HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE CO., LIMITED.

The eleventh annual general meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held at the offices at noon on the 22nd Feb. Mr. Henry Humphreys presided and there were also present Capt. Clement, Messrs. W. H. Mancell, C. Ewins, W. D. Sutton, and J. A. Jupp.

Mr. JUPP read the notice calling the meeting. The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, I have not much to add to the report which has been in your hands for some days, and which, with your permission, I will take as read. The rentals for the first two months of this year amount altogether to \$4,400, which is equivalent to an annual increase in your rent-roll on last year's figures of nearly \$6,000. Fire insurance premia will be heavier this year, but we anticipate the amount to be paid for repairs will be less, so that one can be taken as a set-off against the other. Interest account will be very little more than it was last year, so that unless something very unforeseen occurs no further withdrawal from the equalisation of dividends fund will be necessary. If any shareholder has any questions to ask I shall be pleased to answer them.

The CHAIRMAN—There being no questions, I beg to propose that the report and statement of accounts be adopted.

Capt. CLEMENT seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed the re-election of Mr. Fullarton Henderson as auditor.

Mr. W. H. MANCELL seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow.

## CORRESPONDENCE

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

## MR. SHARP'S SPEECH AT THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO.'S MEETING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—In my remarks at the meeting of the China Fire Insurance Company yesterday, I referred to a sum of about \$5,000 appearing in the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company's last report as the amount paid during 1895 for re-insurances. I am reminded to-day by the Secretary that the \$4,847.74 represents only a very small portion of the re-insurance payments for that year, which had been previously deducted from the gross premia, leaving the net sum of \$250,085.06, as shown in the report of 4th February, 1896.

Will you kindly allow the publication of this correction, with my apology for the oversight.—Yours faithfully,

GRANVILLE SHARP,

Hongkong, 16th February, 1897.

## "KISSING THE BOOK."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—I find from recent home papers that the English form of oath has again been discussed and, as in the past, the same objection is raised by witnesses, supported by medical men, to "kissing the book" as a possible means of contagion to disease of some form or another. From *The Times* it appears that Mr. Francis A. Stringer has returned to the subject and has made certain suggestions to do away with the necessity [sic] for kissing the Bible. The *Australian Medical Gazette* of 20th November, quoted by *The Times*, calls attention to the difficulty which has arisen in the Courts of New South Wales in consequence of the refusal of medical men to "kiss the book." The periodical discussions which arise upon this interesting point are undoubtedly due, to my mind, to many not knowing that the kissing of the Bible attendant upon the administering of an oath is not a component part of the oath, and therefore not at all obligatory. It was so decided of old by eminent judges, and at a time when Courts of Justice were by no means free from the influence of the Church, with which our legal institutions are so intimately bound up. A perusal of the "State Trials," which contain the origin of most of the customs of the Courts of England, apart from affording much food for reflection to the modern student in regard to the dark ages as compared with our present admirable Constitution, affords also much that is useful to the legal mind, and it is due, I think, to the neglect to search the old books that must be attributed the continual raising of a point which does not exist except as a mere ceremony now converted into a custom which the Judges of the Superior Courts at home, to their credit be it said, are loth to do away with as a custom, however much it may be open to a witness or any other modern faddist "to rush in where angels fear to tread," a matter which I have had the honour to discuss in the press elsewhere. Any witness or jurymen, say, objecting to keep up the old custom by refusing to kiss the book, for any particular reason, cannot be compelled to do so—the holding of the Bible, in such cases, by the right hand and repeating the oath, or repeating it with uplifted hand according to the Scotch and French methods [evidently based upon the Roman system], being, in my opinion, all that is necessary. In 4, "Howell's State Trials," 1255 [Morris' Case], is to be

found a ruling of the Court upon an objection taken by the prisoner that a witness for the prosecution had not been properly sworn in, because he had not kissed the book. The decision dates from the year 1649, and is all the more remarkable as it was given upon an important point taken by a prisoner who, as in those days, was denied the assistance of counsel. The following is the conversation decisive of the point:—

"Morris.—My Lords, I except against this Brooke.

Court.—Sir, he is sworn, and you speak too late.

Morris.—My Lords, I appeal to him whether he be sworn or no.

Brooke.—Sir, I am not to answer you, but the Court. My Lords, I did not kiss the book.

Court.—Sir, that is no matter, it's but a ceremony."

Undoubtedly this kissing of the Bible as part of an oath is a custom introduced by the ecclesiastics at the time when they administered our laws and as to which custom the memory of man runneth not to the contrary; and I cannot do better than conclude in the words of that great Judge Lord Keble as reported in Christopher Love's Case [A.D. 1651], 5 How. St. Tr. 238:—"We have no law practised in this land, but is the law of God; and so did the lawyers maintain it before the king in Henry the 8th's time, the pope's legates, and chief archbishops and bishops of England; and did then prove it to them, that there was no law practised in England but the law of God, which our ministers are loth to touch, and busy themselves to study." So long, therefore, as the law of God shall be the law of the land, so long I hope will the custom of kissing the Bible be maintained.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

J. W. NORTON KYSHE.

Hongkong, 22nd February, 1897.

## THE ACQUITTAL OF MISS JACOB.

The case against Miss Jacob, charged by Mr. Lowder with the murder of the late Mr. Carew, came on again in H.B.M. Court for Japan at Yokohama on the 5th February, on an application by the prosecutor for a withdrawal of the charge.

The Court-room, we read in the *Japan Mail*, was filled by an eager, expectant crowd of spectators some time before proceedings commenced. Miss Jacob, who was accompanied by a lady friend, took a seat just behind her counsel, Mr. G. H. Scidmore. She looked bright and composed, and had smiles for those of her friends whose faces she encountered among the crowd. Mr. J. F. Lowder, the prosecuting witness, was early in the Court, and when the Assistant Judge entered rose at once to make application to withdraw the charge.

Mr. Lowder said—Since the institution of these proceedings, another person has been convicted of the crime charged against Mary Jacob, and I shall, therefore, of course, offer no further evidence against her. It is right to add that I had taken this decision before the conclusion of the recent trial, in consequence of the withdrawal of his evidence by one witness, and the failure of another under cross-examination, thus leaving me with the statements of two Japanese maid-servants only, who turn out to be cousins, and who were in the pay of Mrs. Carew, to establish a point which I considered of vital importance to the success of the prosecution, namely, that the relations that had existed between the accused and the deceased were such as to make it probable that she knew of Annie Luke. By the weakening of that link, the chain of evidence connecting the accused with the charge became so attenuated that I determined to proceed no farther with it; and I sent a note to that effect to Mr. Scidmore, to be communicated to Miss Jacob. With that explanation, and with your Honour's permission, I will now withdraw from the prosecution.

Mr. Scidmore applied that the accused should be furnished with the usual certificate certifying the nature of the charge, and of its dismissal.

After some discussion on this point between Mr. Scidmore and the Judge, his Honour ruled that such a certificate could



only be given in summary proceedings where the case had been tried and disposed of. He would enter on the record that the charge was dismissed, the evidence not being sufficient to commit.

Mr. Scidmore—Then, your Honour, I could apply to have a certified copy of such an entry.

His Honour—The entry will be made on the minutes. As I said at a previous sitting of the Court, the evidence so far placed before me is not sufficient to commit.

Mr. Scidmore—Your Honour will appreciate the fact that the accused will shortly be going home, and the possession of such a document will be invaluable to her.

His Honour—Such a certificate could only be granted if the case went to trial and the accused were acquitted.

Mr. Scidmore—Quite so, but I think such a certificate could be granted under the circumstances.

His Honour—I must say that I cannot agree to grant your application, as it does not fall within the provisions of Rule 228. This is my ruling, on the ground that this rule deals only with summary proceedings. I have not referred to you, Mr. Lowder.

Mr. Lowder—I have nothing to say.

His Honour—I thought the point was sufficiently clear without reference to you. (To Mr. Scidmore)—Your application that the accused be furnished with a certificate that the charge has been made and that it has been withdrawn is therefore refused.

Mr. Scidmore—My next application is that there should be returned to the accused the box containing correspondence and other papers except such exhibits as were required as exhibits in this case and in the case *Regina v. Carew*.

Mr. Lowder—I have no objection.

His Honour (to Mr. Scidmore)—Your application then is granted.

Mr. Scidmore—And now I apply that the bail bond of the accused may be cancelled.

Mr. Lowder—That follows as a matter of course.

His Honour—Yes, as a matter of course.

Mr. Scidmore—And further that the complaining witness be ordered to pay the costs.

His Honour—One moment, please.

Mr. Scidmore (after a pause)—I apply that the prosecuting witness, John Frederic Lowder, be ordered to pay to the accused all costs and expenses incident to these proceedings.

His Honour—Under what Rule do you make this application?

Mr. Scidmore—It appears from the Rule of the Court, Form 55 applies, under the Order in Council.

His Honour—That brings us back again to the heading Summary Proceedings. I think you ought to avoid that if you can.

Mr. Scidmore—I merely use it as a peg to hang my subsequent remarks upon. It appears that in prosecutions under charges of misdemeanour, when such charges are dismissed on the grounds of insufficient evidence, persons can recover compensation for costs and the odium that has been unjustly thrown upon them. If that is applicable to cases of mere misdemeanour, with what greater force must it apply to a charge of the character as this now alleged. It appears from the practice in England that provision has been made in such matters under the provisions of the Vexatious Indictments Act of 1859. That law provided for charges of "perjury, subornation of perjury, conspiracy, obtaining money or other property by false pretences, keeping a gambling house, keeping a disorderly house, or indecent assault." In these cases if the "accused person is acquitted the prosecutor may, and probably will, be ordered to pay the defendant's costs." I am reading from a work on "Criminal Procedure," by Disney and Gundry, and published in 1895. I have not access to later authorities than that, your Honour. These authorities do not, I admit, cover the present case, but they suggest to my mind that the Court has discretion to make the order for which I apply. I presume your Honour is fully advised in the matter. The reasons for the application must be apparent to your Honour's mind. The result of the trial in the *Carew* case has demonstrated beyond doubt that this charge was brought hastily, inconsiderately, and heartlessly, and has

utterly failed. And to my mind it has been withdrawn by the prosecuting witness coldly, formally, and without one word of regret. This young girl has been subjected to mental, and I had almost added physical, torture. Her character has been traduced, a charge of murder brought against her, and another allegation was made against her that to a virtuous woman must have been worse than a charge of murder itself. Yet the prosecuting witness has stood up here this morning and asked leave to withdraw his charge without one word of regret or remorse.

His Honour—Your application that the prosecuting witness John Frederic Lowder should be ordered to pay all the costs and expenses incident to this charge I think is governed by the finding in the case *Regina v. Brearley*. This was a case in which the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation sued one D. S. Brearley, and the prosecution failed for want of sufficient evidence, and I made an order that they should pay the defendant the costs of the proceedings. This order was appealed against and a motion filed that it should be discharged. The evidence adduced, as I said, was not sufficient to warrant a committal. An application was made that the costs of the defence should be paid by the prosecution. The magistrate—that was myself—allowed it. This decision was appealed against and the appeal was heard by the Judge and myself, and the matter was fully argued. The application of the appellants was granted—that is to say the costs were refused. I am bound by that decision. I must therefore refuse the application.

Mr. Lowder—Before we pass away from the subject, may I be allowed to say something with reference to what has fallen from Mr. Scidmore with regard to myself, that is with reference to preferring the charge. He accuses me of having acted hastily, inconsiderately, and heartlessly, and beyond that he made use of the words "false charge." By such a phrase I suppose he means to suggest that I knew at the time that it was an untrue charge. If that were so, he implies malice, and if this charge was laid maliciously then the accused would be entitled to much more than her costs, for she would be entitled to bring an action for malicious prosecution.

Mr. Scidmore—I have nothing to say to that part of the case. But there is one matter to which I wish to call your Honour's attention. On the second day—I think it was the 12th January—the accused left this Court to go to the jail to remove some of her effects. After she arrived there she found in her cell a paper-covered volume of a book entitled "A Romance of Two Worlds." This was lying on the table in her cell.

His Honour—Has this anything to do with this case?

Mr. Scidmore—It is very necessary that I refer to it now; I may not have another opportunity.

His Honour—Is it not a matter of jail discipline?

Mr. Scidmore—I think it has a bearing on this case, your Honour. Your Honour will remember that this volume, "A Romance of Two Worlds," was used by Mr. Lowder in the course of this case. In that exhibit occurs the phrase "our twin souls," and it was used in this case to connect the accused with the person who signed her letters A.L.—the Annie Luke. It was used to show that the accused was familiar with the phrase, and for that reason I now allude to the incident. The book was shown to have been kept on a shelf in the dining-room of Mrs. Carew's house and was accessible to every one in the house. We have now the fact that some one placed a second copy of that book in the cell of the accused. From what I have since ascertained, it is my duty to state that the jailer, Mr. Hodges, was totally unaware of the book have been placed there.

His Honour—I think it is a matter concerning the discipline of the jail.

Mr. Scidmore—It is my duty to bring the matter forward.

His Honour—As Assistant Judge, sitting in this case, I cannot take cognisance of it; but in my capacity as Governor of the jail, I may tell you that I have made enquiries into the matter, and I may inform you that the jailer was not

responsible for it, nor were the prosecution either. A subordinate in the jail was responsible for putting the book there and not the jailer.

Mr. Scidmore—I am glad to hear it.

His Honour—And it was not in any way connected with the prosecution, not in any way.

Mr. Scidmore—I am glad to hear it.

His Honour—In fact it appears to have been a pure accident that the incident of the book occurred.

Mr. Scidmore—It was certainly a most unusual coincidence.

His Honour—An application was made for some books to read, by a most unlucky coincidence that book, along with another, was placed in the cell. It was a pure accident, I am perfectly satisfied as to that.

Mr. Scidmore bowed his acknowledgments.

His Honour—On your third application that the bail bond be cancelled, I have ruled that this application be granted. Permission is given for the withdrawal of the bond. The accused is dismissed from bail, and her bondsmen are relieved from the bond. With reference to what was said by you in the latter part of the application for permission to withdraw the charge, I will only say that I am satisfied that the prosecutor at the time he made the charge was convinced of the truth of the charge. That I think I may say.

Mr. Lowder—I am much obliged to your Honour.

The proceedings then terminated.

The following was placed in the hands of Miss Jacob the same afternoon:—

"A charge, by a private prosecutor, was laid in H.B.M.'s Court here on the 10th January, 1897, against Mary Esther Jacob, of having murdered one Walter Hallowell Carew, at this place.

"A Preliminary Examination in the case was held before me, as Assistant Judge of the Court, on various subsequent dates; and on this 5th day of February application was made by the Prosecutor for permission to withdraw the charge. This permission was granted by the Court, and no imputation whatsoever in connection with this matter rests on Mary Esther Jacob.

[Consular Seal] "JAMES TROUP,  
"H.B.M.'s Consul.

"British Consulate,

"Yokohama, 5th February, 1897."

AN APOLOGY.

The following letters are published in the Yokohama papers:—

13th February, 1897.

Madam,—I am this moment, and for the first time, in receipt of proof which is conclusive to my mind that you were not the writer of the A. L. letters; and I now hasten to ask you to accept that apology which I have heretofore been unable conscientiously to offer you for the pain and mental suffering to which you have been put in consequence of the charge I considered it my duty to prefer against you, and which I am now convinced was unfounded.—Miss Mary Esther Jacob,

No. 2, Bluff.

Very faithfully, J. F. LOWDER.

Yokohama, 13th February, 1897.

J. F. Lowder, Esq.,

Present.

Sir,—On behalf of my client, Miss Mary Esther Jacob, I have to acknowledge, with thanks, your letter, of this date, addressed to her.—I am, sir, yours sincerely,

GEO. H. SCIDMORE.

We understand that the German Minister at Peking has had an interview with Sir Robert Hart on the subject of the new Imperial Chinese Post, and the incidence of that institution upon the free and untrammelled transit of the German mail between one Treaty port and another in China. The upshot of the meeting is that the Inspector-General of Customs has given assurances that no interference will take place with regard to the German mails, which will be despatched and carried as heretofore, by convenient steamers, without reference to the new Postal Service. People in Peking are waking up to the shortcomings, and extensions of the new institution, and the dangers which it introduces, and doubtless other diplomats will follow the spirited lead of the German Minister.—*China Gazette*.



## THE FORMOSAN OPIUM REGULATIONS.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

TAIPEHFU, 14th February.

The opium difficulty has at last been disposed of, and the Opium Regulations have been published by order of the Governor-General.

Mr. R. Hughes, of Kobe, representing Samuels & Co., who are to take over the opium importation exclusively, has arrived to establish the business. It is hoped he will remain personally in charge, as some difficulties will no doubt be encountered before the system is running smoothly, but under his skilful superintendence we may expect them to be reduced to a minimum. As this change will directly interest no small number of merchants I have obtained a translation of the Regulations, which I give entire:—

### THE FORMOSA OPIUM REGULATIONS.

Art. I.—The term "Opium" in these regulations refers to raw opium, prepared opium, and powdered opium.

Art. II.—Prepared (refined) opium and powdered opium are to be sold only by the Government.

The importation and manufacture of any drugs containing opium to such an extent that the same effect as prepared opium is produced are prohibited. Also to buy, sell, deliver, receive, or possess the same without having obtained a licence is prohibited.

Art. III.—Such persons as are recognized as having fallen into opium habits will be allowed to buy and smoke refined opium, and to them will be issued permits.

Art. IV.—Special permits will be granted to those who make application to enter upon the following occupations:—

- 1.—Retailing refined opium.
- 2.—The manufacture and sale of opium smoking apparatus.
- 3.—Retailing of opium smoking apparatus.
- 4.—Establishing of opium smoking houses.
- 5.—The disposing of powdered opium at wholesale, which, however, is granted only to apothecaries, druggists, and physicians.

Art. V.—Physicians, apothecaries, druggists, and pharmacologists alone are permitted to buy, sell, deliver, possess, or receive powdered opium without a licence.

Art. VI.—Those persons who have been granted the licences (permits) as given in article III. and article IV. are to pay licence fees, the amount of which will hereafter be determined and announced at the office of the Governor-General.

Art. VII.—Those persons who have been granted the licence to buy and smoke refined (prepared) opium, or those who have been granted the licence to establish opium smoking houses, can buy and possess opium smoking apparatus.

Art. VIII.—If those persons who have been granted the licence for retailing refined opium sell or transfer refined opium to those who do not possess the present licence certificates for buying and smoking refined opium they will be liable to imprisonment at hard labour for a term not exceeding fifteen years or a fine not exceeding 5,000 yen.

Art. IX.—If those persons who have been granted the licence for establishing opium smoking houses supply those who do not present licence certificates for buying and smoking refined opium at smoking houses they will be liable to imprisonment at hard labour for a term not exceeding eight years or a fine not exceeding 2,000 yen.

Art. X.—If those persons who have been granted the licence to retail or manufacture opium smoking utensils sell or transfer such utensils to persons not furnished with licence certificates for smoking opium or establishing opium smoking houses they will be liable to imprisonment with hard labour for a term not exceeding eight years or a fine not exceeding 2,000 yen.

Art. XI.—Any person without a licence who shall import or manufacture raw opium, powdered opium, or drugs having the same effect as opium, will be liable to imprisonment at hard labour for a term not exceeding eleven years or a fine not exceeding 3,000 yen.

Any person without a licence who has bought, sold, delivered, received, or possesses raw opium

or drugs of like effect will be liable to imprisonment at hard labour for a term not exceeding four years or a fine not exceeding 1,800 yen.

Any person without a licence who is found disposing of powdered opium wholesale, or who has bought, sold, delivered, received, or possesses powdered opium, will be liable to imprisonment at hard labour for a term not exceeding four years or a fine not exceeding 1,800 yen.

In the above three cases, the opium shall be forfeited, as well as any monies received for the sale of same.

### ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS.

Art. XII.—For purposes of disposal of the prepared opium and the powdered opium as well as for the granting of licences in accordance with the above regulations the island will be divided into districts, and these regulations will be put into practice in these districts in such order as will best suit the convenience of the Government.

Art. XIII.—Even though these regulations have been published, if the licences have not been granted in certain districts, the following regulations should be observed until the granting of licences has been put into effect:—

- 1.—Only those persons who are habitual opium smokers are allowed to purchase and possess prepared opium and opium smoking apparatus, and to smoke opium.
- 2.—Those persons who have hitherto been engaged in the manufacture or retailing of prepared opium or opium smoking apparatus may continue in these occupations.
- 3.—Those persons who have hitherto been engaged in the occupation of keepers of opium smoking houses may continue in this occupation and may also buy and possess opium smoking apparatus.
- 4.—Those persons who have previously obtained raw opium, refined opium, or smoking apparatus, but not as dealers in these articles, may continue to possess them or sell them to the dealers.

Art. XIV.—In those districts where the granting of the licence certificates and the sale of refined and powdered opium by the Government has been put into effect, the opium and opium smoking apparatus held by any persons without licence certificates shall be transferred to the Government and the Government will pay the holders a reasonable price for such articles, if they are recognized to be of value.

Those persons who do not transfer the above mentioned articles to the Government, in violation of the above regulation, will be liable to imprisonment at hard labour for a term not exceeding one year, or a fine not exceeding \$350, together with the forfeiture of such opium or apparatus, or if the same has been sold to other parties the sum received shall be forfeited.

### MR. DAVIDSON AND MR. O'SHEA ON THE PHILIPPINE REBELLION.

The following letter appears in the *China Gazette*:—

Sir,—I will be obliged if you will kindly allow me space in your columns to call to the attention of your readers, as well as to Mr. O'Shea, several misstatements appearing in your correspondence from Manila. Mr. O'Shea has, in such of his reports as have come across my observation, evidently confused me with other writers, inasmuch as he seems to associate me as author with every published remark that is written in a manner not pleasing to him. For instance, in a letter dated Manila, December 23rd, and signed by Mr. O'Shea, I notice: "The story of the confessional and the breaking of the priestly seal of silence that Mr. Davidson and others told in explanation of the discovery of the plot is, to put it mildly, all Tommy Rot." In his anxiety to correct a report which he believed was a falsehood, I cannot understand why he should extend his disapproval to me, inasmuch as, with the exception of this letter, I have never referred to the subject in any way. Again immediately following, Mr. O'Shea states that what he is "amazed and horrified at is that any white man can be so short-sighted as to display blind but well meaning sympathy with the natives of the Philippines in this horrible conspiracy, etc." That he refers to me as the short-sighted "white man" is not so stated, but

that is certainly the impression that it would give the reader. In reviewing my letters carefully, the only reference touching directly on the subject that I can find is contained in the third, where I state in referring to the treatment of the natives by the Church and Government: "I do not wish to convey by that the idea that their grievances were of sufficient enormity to countenance open rebellion, but the combined oppression of the Church and Government is such as would tend to keep the natives in a constant state of dissatisfaction." Whether Mr. O'Shea agrees with me or not on this point I do not know, but surely he cannot construe that remark into an expression of sympathy with the natives in their conspiracy against the Spanish Government.

In consideration of the above, I believe that Mr. O'Shea will not consider me unreasonable in requesting him to correct the error, which was no doubt unwittingly made, in such papers as have been furnished with his interesting correspondence.—Very respectfully yours,

JAS. W. DAVIDSON.

Taipehtu, 25th January, 1897.

### COLLISION AT SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, 15th February.

A collision, happily unattended by any serious consequences, as far as particulars to hand state, took place yesterday morning in the river in the vicinity of Gough Island. The China Merchants steamer *Fungshun* was proceeding on charter to Chinkiang and Amoy. The Blue Funnel str. *Nestor*, which had left the Associated Wharves shortly before 8 o'clock, was proceeding in the same direction, and was fast overtaking the *Fungshun*. The speed at which the larger vessel was proceeding, and the narrowness of the Channel, rendered a collision inevitable. The *Fungshun* endeavoured to avoid it by making way for the *Nestor*, which, however, ran into her, damaging her port quarter. The engines of the *Fungshun* were immediately slowed down, and on the extent of the damage being ascertained, her commander turned her round and put back to Shanghai, the *Nestor* proceeding on her voyage after being informed of the extent of the damage. The *Fungshun* put into the Old Dock, where a survey of the damage was made. As the *Fungshun* was on charter, and as at the time there was no other steamer to take her place, the Directors of the China Merchants decided to have the damages temporarily repaired. Messrs. Farnham & Co. speedily effected these repairs, and the *Fungshun* proceeded on her voyage this morning. On her return she will be docked and the repairs completed. So far as has been ascertained the *Nestor* suffered no damage in the collision.—*China Gazette*.

### MR. HUANG CHUN-HSIEN.

Mr. Huang Chun-hsien, formerly Chinese Consul-General at Singapore, who was nominated to the post of Chinese Minister at Berlin, but whose nomination was rejected by the German Government, has asked the *N. O. Daily News* to publish the following letter to Sir Cecil C. Smith, formerly Governor of the Straits Settlements, explaining the difficulty at Singapore which is supposed to have been the cause of his rejection:—

Peking, China,

January 18th, 1897.

Dear Sir,—Three years have passed since I had the honour to bid you farewell when Your Excellency took leave of Singapore for your country. It was with no little pleasure that I noticed, while in Singapore, the magnanimity of the English Government, and the prosperity and happiness of my countrymen, not to be equalled by any other of the Straits Colonies. On my departure for this country, I availed myself of the occasion to write to the Straits Government expressing my feeling of gratitude, stating that whatever privileges were allowed to foreigners, Chinese could likewise enjoy, and besides that there exist special acts for the protection of the Chinese, like the Women's Society and the Workmen's Act, which were enforced during Your Excellency's term of office. After my return to this country, and in my interviews with our provincial dignitaries and the Ministers of the Tsungli Yamen



I have repeatedly told them of Your Excellency's generous and just actions, and they are all cherishing for Your Excellency the highest consideration.

There is a matter to which I would like to call Your Excellency's attention. Your Excellency will doubtless remember that in May, 1893, Inspector-General Hart sent Mr. Ludlow to see Your Excellency in Penang, saying that since so much opium had been smuggled from Singapore it was desired that new regulations for signing duty certificates might be enforced, and for this he asked Your Excellency's assistance, to which Your Excellency replied that it could be tried; but, if the English Government objected or should the Singapore merchants be inconvenienced by such regulations, it should be withdrawn immediately. On the 3rd of June I called on Your Excellency, and on that occasion Your Excellency was good enough to tell me that proper investigations had been made and that it was found that, while the junkmen are the purchasers of the opium, it is the merchants who give bonds for payment of the necessary duty, therefore it was impossible to enforce the proposed regulations, and that the Inspector-General had been duly advised with a request that the proposed action should not be taken. Three days afterwards I again met your Excellency, when Your Excellency said that the Inspector-General still wired begging that a trial should be made, and that since it would be awkward to refuse, said that the new regulations might be tried experimentally.

The new regulations having been issued a month, there was not a single person who came to the Consulate to sign the certificates as required. When the Chinese heard that new regulations would soon be enforced, a great demand was made for opium, and eight to nine hundred chests were contracted for. Shipment of this opium was prevented and 50 to 60 junks with over a thousand junkmen were not allowed to leave the port, for which reasons they petitioned that the Consul and the Protector of Chinese should withdraw the new regulations, which was not granted. Hence it was proposed to the Chinese that, as these new regulations were not issued from the Colonial Office, nor were they regulations enacted by the Straits Government, as soon as they resorted to legal proceedings the said regulations would be immediately ended. For this a fund was raised among the junkmen. I heard this news with much anxiety, and it was with much exertion on my part that such action was suppressed.

Soon afterwards the merchants presented a united petition stating that the junkmen would pay \$40 per chest as a guarantee for the duty, and that when the opium reached China whether or not the specified duty could be collected, the Singapore merchants who signed the certificates should be held to no further obligations. I answered that the money should be put in the charge of Tsai Mun-pow, to wait for further instructions from the Tsungli Yamen. In the meantime I allowed the opium to leave the port as desired.

On the 10th of July, in company with my interpreter Mr. La-shan, I again called on Your Excellency, when Your Excellency's attention was drawn to the above mentioned petition from the Chinese merchants, and Your Excellency remarked that since the merchants asked this to be done with their own free will there was nothing in it that does not conform with English law. As there was no despatch sent me on these subjects I could not notify the Colonial Secretary of the same, and I am not aware whether or not Your Excellency has noted our conversation in your register. Nevertheless, I doubt not in the least that all these occurrences are still fresh in your memory. Herewith I have the honour to submit for Your Excellency's perusal a copy of the merchants' petition, a *facsimile* of the one now on file in the Tsungli Yamen.

Since Your Excellency's departure from Singapore, very unfortunately, on account of public questions, the Protector of Chinese and myself were not on very good terms. The Protector of Chinese, finding no weaknesses in me that he could utilise, finally took away the money that was in Tsai Mun-pow's charge and deposited it with the Colonial Treasury. And

afterwards he, the Protector of Chinese, misrepresented to the Governor, who reported to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister for the Colonies, that this money was a compulsory tax from the merchants.

That this money was collected from the merchants with their own full consent, and on their own petition and that I gave answer that I could not on my own authority receive it, but would ask for the instructions of my government, and as to whether or not the payment thereof was compulsory the record itself shows. Whether in Singapore, a duty free colony, the Government ought to or ought not to try to enforce such regulations it was not for me to decide. Moreover, at that time I, with the same opinion as Your Excellency, said that it would be difficult to enforce such regulations. With the instructions from the Tsungli Yamen and petitions from the merchants my duty as Consul was simply to transmit their views. From the beginning to the end the money was never in my charge, and as to the slanderous charge that it was a compulsory fee to be appropriated by me, this, I think, Your Excellency could never have imagined.

The German Government hearing these unfounded reports have now refused to accept my appointment as Minister to that Court. I have done nothing that would cause Germany to raise such objections nor have my actions been disagreeable to England. It was only the Protector of Chinese with whom I was not on perfectly good terms. As to the instructions from Inspector-General Hart to enforce the new opium regulations they were all verbal, no written documents existing to which reference can be made. But as to the claim that a compulsory fee was exacted, there remains on record the merchants' petition in which they asked for such a tax themselves. Four years of my duty in Singapore were passed under your administration; my actions are all known to Your Excellency and do not require any explanation from me. Fearing that your Foreign Office might not know the real facts of the case, I take the liberty to address you in the premises.

With best wishes for your good health and happiness.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

HUANG-CHUN-HSIEN,

Late Chinese Consul-General, Singapore,  
Sir Cecil Smith, Ex-Governor Singapore.  
London.

TRANSLATION OF PETITION FROM 16 SINGAPORE FIRMS TO CONSUL-GENERAL HUANG (19TH YEAR, 5TH MOON, 23RD DAY).

Sir,—In regard to the new regulations for opium tariff that it would be impossible to comply with and as to our way of settling the matter by a tax of \$80 on each chest to go into effect after the 6th moon, we have had the honour already to petition you, and of which you were good enough to report to the Tsungli Yamen. It is not necessary to state here that we are very grateful. But the distance between Singapore and Peking is rather far, requiring nearly two months for an answer, while the junkmen, during the middle of the 4th moon, before the new regulations were issued, had already purchased opium to several hundred chests; now they are not permitted to leave. The junks now at anchor number 50, with 30 persons to each junk; there are 1,500 men who for this account are much inconvenienced. After great deliberation we consent to accept the new regulations temporarily so that the goods may leave the port. But according to the new regulations it is necessary to state in China in what district and store the duty is to be paid. From what the junkmen report, whether or not there is such store and whether or not they are reliable and competent to pay the required duty we have no means of finding out. In order to protect ourselves from damages thus suffered in the future, we cannot but think of some way at present to collect a certain sum from the junkmen as a guarantee. But they all say that their money having been used in the purchase of goods they have no other fund. To their very best they only can raise \$40 per chest to be deposited with the Chung Chow Club House. As the junks from Hainan always come from the 3rd till the 8th moon, it is fair to believe they left China unprovided. For these con-

ditions we beg you to permit the articles to leave port, and to exempt the houses in Singapore who sign the receipts on payment of \$40 per chest from further obligations, no matter what regulations might be adopted to take effect next year. In begging you to report this to the Tsungli Yamen we have to this petition placed our respective stamps.

(Stamps of 19 Chinese Firms.)

TRANSLATION OF CONSUL-GENERAL HUANG'S REPLY TO MERCHANTS' PETITION (19TH YEAR, 5TH MOON, 23RD DAY).

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your petition. Since your actions are in accord with new regulations, it becomes my duty to issue certificates with permit to leave port. As to the payment of \$40 per chest being made to free them from further obligations is a matter which I the Consul-General cannot decide. But knowing your difficulties I will report accordingly and ask for the consent of the Government. Mr. Tsai Mun-pow, a native of Chungchow, being an honourable and upright subject, respected by all, shall for the time have charge of said money to wait for further instructions to be issued from the Tsungli Yamen.

### THE RUSSIAN SQUADRON IN THE FAR EAST.

According to the Russian "Admiralty Programme for 1897," the Russian Pacific Squadron this year will consist of the following vessels:—The first-class battleship *Imperator Nicolai II.* (flagship), the first-class cruisers *Rossia*, *Rurik*, *Pamyat Azova*, *Admiral Nakhimoff*, *Admiral Korniloff*, and *Dmitri Donskoi*; the second-class cruisers *Sabiaka* and *Kreisser*; the high-sea gunboats *Gremyaschichi*, *Otrasschni*, *Koryets*, *Manchur*, and *Sivutich*; the torpedo-cruisers *Vladnik* and *Gaidamak*, and two torpedo-boats. In the early summer the first-class cruiser *Vladimir Monomach* and the gunboat *Gilyak* will also be attached to the Far Eastern Squadron, which, it will be seen from the foregoing enumeration, now forms a strong fighting flotilla. The *Sibirski Vyestnik* the other day pointed out that it was undoubtedly necessary for Russia to maintain a powerful fleet in the Far East as a check upon Japan. The same journal also complains that the great mass of Russian immigrants in Eastern Siberia, who come chiefly from the agricultural and black-earth region of European Russia, are totally averse to being recruited for maritime occupations, and consequently there is a complete dearth of Russian coastwise craft in those waters. It is owing to this necessity that the Imperial Government has just issued an order abrogating, for the present, the *cabotage* restrictions which ordinarily prevent foreigners from engaging in the Russian coasting trade. This rescript applies, of course, only to the Pacific and Siberian seaboard.

### SAIGON.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

14th February.

The mail steamer *Melbourne*, which had our new Governor-General, M. Doumer, on board, has arrived quite a day later than she was expected, owing to extremely bad weather having been experienced between Singapore and Cape St. James.

The poll tax on Chinese coolies has been raised, by a resolution of the Colonial Council, and is now \$13. This has caused much grumbling and the head men of the various Chinese societies are petitioning the Government for the maintenance of the old rate, \$10. The Treasury, however, is in need of funds and the Chinese are arriving in large numbers, for notwithstanding all that has been said and written about the commercial stagnation of Cochin China, it remains a favourite field of emigration for the Chinese. It is therefore considered that the poll tax is a convenient form of increasing the revenue.

There has been a heavy falling off in the Customs receipts, owing to foreign piece goods having been replaced by French manufactures. The French tariff, whilst favouring the home trade, causes on the other hand a falling off in the Customs receipts.



You will probably have heard ere this of the great fire that occurred at Cholon just before the Chinese New Year. It broke out at 1 a.m. and with a strong wind blowing spread rapidly, no fewer than a hundred and twenty houses being consumed. The damage amounts to one and a half million dollars, and is only partly covered by insurance. All our local insurance agencies are involved, the claims that have to be met aggregating about \$300,000. This is the third fire within a month. It is strange that these fires occur always near China New Year and just at a time when the tide is low, so that water cannot be obtained.

### MANILA.

A Manila correspondent writes:—  
Manila has lost one of its most popular foreign residents in the person of Mr. E. W. Blodgett, of the firm of Warner, Blodgett & Co., who left here for good by the last trip of the *Esmeralda*. The Manila Government is proceeding in all earnestness in the seizure of properties belonging to those alleged to be implicated in the rebellion. It is said that in the case of one of the wealthiest conspirators, who succeeded in escaping, grave complications will arise, as the bulk of his property is mortgaged to an English bank.

It is held that Britishers affect to despise foreign languages. This is attributed to what has been felicitously termed British insularity. It is true that there are Englishmen who have been residing in Manila for a score of years and still speak vile Spanish, simply because they do not care to improve themselves. However, there are honourable exceptions to the rule. Sir John Bowring, a former Governor of Hongkong, is an instance in point. Sir John knew no fewer than seven modern languages. Sir George Bowen, another Governor of Hongkong, was also—to use a mild expression—proud of his linguistic attainments, which he lost no opportunity of parading. And last, but not least, on finding such an old salt as the Commodore of the China and Manila S. S. Co. speaking to his passengers in all the known languages under the sun, one might well exclaim that the English are polyglots after all!

### MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

19th February.

The departure of Senhor Horta e Costa for Lisbon was so sudden that it did not afford time for the arrangement of any public farewell demonstrations. A dinner in His Excellency's honour took place, however, at the Club Uniao, at which more than seventy gentlemen were present. The number would have been much larger if the notice could have been a little longer. After the dinner His Excellency was accompanied home by the whole company, blue lights being burnt along the route and the military band playing the national hymn. By the kind permission of the Secretary of the Steamboat Company on the morning his Excellency left the departure of the *Heungshan* was postponed until nine o'clock and it is said that it was left to His Excellency to fix a still later hour had he so desired. Almost the entire community was at the wharf to bid farewell to the departing Governor and his wife, amongst those present being sixty or seventy ladies. There was a great amount of cracker firing as the vessel left.

The government of Macao is now in the hands of a commission consisting of the Chief Justice, the Colonial Secretary, and the senior military officer.

The other day the Leal Senado sent out an express inviting the public to subscribe for a gold medal to be presented to Senhor Horta e Costa, one side of the medal to be engraved with His Excellency's name and the other with the words "O povo de Macao reconhecido"—a token of esteem from the people of Macao. The idea of presenting His Excellency with a testimonial is an excellent one, but the form selected is rather unfortunate, as it is suggestive of a prize medal to a schoolboy. A cup or inkstand, or something of that kind would be better. His Excellency is highly esteemed in the colony and if the subscription

should amount, as is not unlikely, to three or four hundred dollars, what a big medal the money would buy!

It is singular that the subscription list for the testimonial, instead of being placed in the Club, or the Leal Senado's office, or other public place, has been placed in a private office. If the subscription is intended to be a public one the list should be placed where it would be readily accessible by the public.

I hear that the Government servants are also going to make a presentation to our late Governor and that it is to take the form of an album containing portraits of all the subscribers. I would suggest that instead of portraits of individuals the album should contain views showing all the improvements Senhor Horta e Costa has effected during his administration, with the subscribers' autographs on the last few pages. Thus His Excellency would always be reminded of the good he has done in the colony and of those who have served with him.

The carnival is drawing near. For years past this event has been marked by nothing extraordinary except a few young people parading the streets in fancy costume. Last year, however, the procession was not held, because certain gangs of roughs amused themselves by throwing rotten eggs and flour at all who passed near them in the streets. This caused much public annoyance. People were taken by surprise last year, but they will be prepared this year, and if the authorities do not take steps to prevent a repetition of such rowdiness some serious disturbance may result.

A few days ago six armed robbers were captured here. It is said they came from Hongkong, having good reason to absent themselves from your colony.

The telegraph line between Macao and Hongkong still continues interrupted. It has been so since the 5th January.

### HONGKONG.

The annual race meeting was held on the 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th instant and was a great success. The attendance each day was very large and the spectators had a most enjoyable time, although the weather was cold and cheerless. On the 23rd instant a sale of race ponies took place in front of the City Hall. The Amateur Dramatic Club appeared in *Les Cloches de Corneville* on Saturday, Monday, and yesterday, and other performances are to follow. The production is generally considered the best in point of real acting merit ever witnessed in the colony. On the 22nd instant Captain Ward, R.M.L.I., of H.M.S. *Grafton*, committed suicide in his cabin by blowing out his brains with a rifle. The Coroner's jury found that he was temporarily insane at the time. The following company meetings have been held during the week:—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, Humphreys Estate Company, Limited, and the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.

H.M.S. *Centurion* went into dock at Kowloon on Friday.

There were 3,030 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 115 were Europeans.

It is reported that the Osaka Steamship Co. intend shortly starting a line of steamers to run between Hongkong and Formosa.

Dr. G. E. Morrison, the *Times* correspondent and author of "An Australian in China," arrived from Bangkok by the *Loosok* on the 18th.

On the 22nd February the men-of-war in the harbour were decorated in honour of the birthday of George Washington, and at noon salutes were fired.

The Hon. A. M. Thomson, Acting Postmaster-General, has received the substantive appointment, which has become vacant through the retirement of Mr. A. K. Travers.

Although the new road at the Peak, from a point near "Treverbyn" to the Peak Club, has not been actually commenced the contractor is actively at work preparing stone for it, and a gang of coolies are busily engaged splitting boulders on the hill sides and carrying them to the ravine below "Stolzenfels."

H.M.S. *Pigmy* left on Friday for Bangkok. The German flag-ship *Kaiser* left for Amoy on the 22nd February.

Mrs. Roxas, the widow of Francisco Roxas, who was shot in Manila for having taken part in the rebellion, arrived here on the 22nd February from Manila. She was accompanied by her six children—three sons and three daughters.

We are sure that all classes of the community will deeply regret to hear of the death of the younger daughter of Sir John Carrington, Chief Justice. His Lordship received the distressing news by telegram from England on the 16th February.

The man who was recently arrested by the Chinese authorities on suspicion of having murdered a boat-girl at Aberdeen has been handed over to the Hongkong Police. This is the first time the Chinese authorities have given up to the British Government a man charged with murder.

Two men broke into a house at Yaumatei on the 12th inst. and stole \$20 worth of clothing. One of the thieves was arrested and on the 16th February he was sent to gaol for four months with hard labour.

On Sunday morning a Volunteer Parade Service was held in Union Church, the service being conducted by the Rev. G. J. Williams. There was a good muster of men and they presented a very smart appearance in their full dress uniform. The officers on parade were Captain Chapman, Lieutenants Machell, MacDonald, and Wylie.

Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, we hear, has been appointed Colonial Treasurer. While congratulating Mr. Sercombe Smith on an appointment that means for the present substantial promotion, we think it probable that in the long run he will revert to the legal department, in which he has for some time past been acting, and in which, formerly as Acting Magistrate and latterly as Acting Puisne Judge, he has earned considerable distinction.

We have had forwarded to us anonymously a portrait of the late Dr. Rizal, who was shot at Manila on the 30th December last. There is a printed inscription on the back, dedicated to the deceased, to the effect that when the Philippines shall have achieved their proper destiny there will be erected to him an altar in the temple of immortality and his name will be written in letters of gold on the eternal pages of history. The portrait is accompanied with a poem, entitled "Mi Ultimo Pensamiento"—(My Last Thought)—signed "José Rizal" and which purports to be his farewell to his country and his friends, but it seems scarcely possible that the poem can be the genuine production of Dr. Rizal, as in the brief space which elapsed between his condemnation and his execution he would have neither time nor opportunity for such a composition nor facilities for sending it out. As to this, however, an explanation is suggested by a correspondent in another column. Whether the explanation is sufficient or not must be left to the reader to decide for himself.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

It is reported that H.E. Lo Feng-lo, in his capacity of Minister-designate to Great Britain, has appointed his elder brother to the Consul-Generalship at Singapore, and his nephew to be Consul at Penang. Both of them are of Taotai's rank.—*N. C. Daily News*.

When the *Narcissus* was slipping her anchor as she was about to leave Chemulpo on the 17th February a block broke and the rope flew back with terrific force. It seriously injured an able seaman named Vardigan, breaking two of his ribs, by which his lung was lacerated, and at the same time inflicted a scalp wound on Lieut. Gaunt. It is considered almost miraculous that the results were not far more serious.—*Nagasaki Shipping List*.

The abnormal cold experienced last night, says the *Shanghai Mercury* of the 11th February, had a peculiar effect on several steamers which arrived in port this morning. Two at least were seen with huge white bands encircling their hulls to the height of a few feet above the water line. These bands, on closer examination, proved to be composed of thick ice, the spray from the waves having frozen as soon as it struck the hull, with the above result.



At the annual meeting of "B" Company of the Shanghai Volunteers Mr. H. W. Daldy was elected first and Sergeant W. Whitfield second lieutenant of the Company.

At the Osaka Marine Office, on the 23rd January, an inquiry was held into the circumstances attending the collision between the British steamer *Gaelic* and the *Kompira Maru*, owned by Mr. Hara Kokichi. Mr. Wilson Walker, pilot of the *Gaelic*, stated that the vessel left Nagasaki about 6 p.m. on the 12th August, 1896, for Kobe, and on the following day, about 6 a.m., the vessel entered Shimono-saki Straits. Soon after he sighted the *Kin-shu Maru* at a distance of about 200 feet. He managed to avoid a collision with her, the vessel sheering off, but the *Gaelic*, a moment after, struck a junk, the *Kompira Maru*. After the collision the pilot tried to pass the sunken rock known as Yojibei, but without success, and the vessel struck the rock. About 9 a.m. the same day the *Gaelic*, having floated off the rock, anchored near Hikojima and effected temporary repairs to her bottom. At noon the following day the vessel left for Nagasaki, arriving there about 11.30 p.m. the same day. After hearing the evidence of several witnesses, the Court found that Mr. Walker, the pilot, was not to blame in regard to the collision, but was blame-worthy for having struck the rock. His certificate was suspended for two months.

A military riot is reported from Kaohou, Kwangtung. During the famine there many of the sufferers were compelled to sell their children in order to save their lives, and amongst the purchasers was the chief secretary of the district magistrate of Moumingsien. He bought two girls, one of eight and the other ten years of age. As he was taking the two children to the passenger boat for transport to Canton, he was set upon by soldiers and arrested on the charge of kidnapping. It so happened that the district magistrate was absent in the country and the prisoner appealed to the assistant magistrate. The result was that the captors were in their turn made captive, bamboozed, and finally driven out of the yamen. The soldiers, however, complained to their commanding officer, who also took umbrage and allowed his men to return to the yamen and inflict revenge on the unlucky magistrate. After beating him to their heart's content the soldiers dragged him to the temple of Mars (Kuant), and while some made him kneel down before the god others began plucking their victim's hair and moustache by the roots until he was bereft of all hirsute appendage on the head and face. The regiment, or a great part of it, then went into revolt and troops are now engaged in trying to capture the mutineers.—*N. C. Daily News*.

## COMMERCIAL.

### TEA.

SHANGHAI, 19th instant.—(From Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co.'s Circular).—The almost enthusiastic way in which the few packages of "new process" Tea from Foochow have been received in England and the favourable comments of leading distributors on them show clearly the strong hungering there is for something in Tea which is lacking in Indian and only partially found in Ceylon produce. This something is the "flower" flavor which only the Chinese leaf possesses, and our opinion is confirmed that China leaf made by machinery would be the ideal Tea that is wanted. The market is ready for it as soon as it is produced.

Black Tea.—One or two settlements at slightly easier rates are all that have to be recorded about this market. Settlements reported are 804 half-chests at Tls. 12½ to Tls. 14½.

Green Tea.—Pingsueys.—No business to report. Some Tea-men have offered to ship their holdings, but no one has been found ready to advance any money on them on account of the low quality of the produce.

Country Tea.—Market closed.

Hysons.—A moderate business has been done at prices about 15 per cent. below the highest point.

### SILK.

Shanghai, 19th instant.—(From Mr. A. B. Burkill's Circular).—London advices are to 17th current, and quote Gold Kilin 8/6, Blue Elephant 10/8, market quiet. Raw Silk.—Demand has slackened somewhat during the past few days

and the business of the week is only small. Arrivals are insignificant. Tsattees.—About 250 bales have changed hands at quotations, and the market is closing very quiet. Yellow Silks.—Figure in the settlements for about 250 piculs, prices are firm, and in the absence of adequate supplies are likely to remain so. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, 11th to 17th current, 23 bales White, 102 piculs Yellow, and 235 piculs Wild Silks. Filatures and Re-reels.—Some 200 bales Steam filatures are reported settled of 10/12 and 13/15 deniers and the same quantity of Hand filatures have been booked at quotations. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: to London 6 bales, to Continent 1,769 bales, and to America 1,864 bales. Waste Silk.—We do not hear of any transactions. Pongees.—Settlements are 3,500 pieces, amongst which are 19 by 19 by 23 oz. at Tls. 3.25 to Tls. 3.40; lower qualities of same measurement at Tls. 2.75 to Tls. 2.80; 24/25 by 14 by 22/23 oz. at Tls. 2.65 to Tls. 3.00; and 33/34 by 19 by 37/39 oz. at Tls. 6.80.

### CAMPBON.

HONGKONG, 24th February.—The market is weak and prices declining. Quotations for Formosa are nominally \$46.25 to \$46.50. Sales, 150 piculs.

### SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 24th February.—The market has been moderately active and prices are advancing. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.30 to 7.32 per picul.
do. " 2, White...	6.67 to 6.70 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.51 to 4.54 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.32 to 4.35 "
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.24 to 7.26 "
do. " 2, White...	6.31 to 6.35 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.41 to 4.45 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.27 to 4.30 "
Soochow Sugar Candy.....	11.07 to 11.10 "
Shekloong " .....	9.57 to 9.60 "

### MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The British ship *Matterhorn*, sailed on the 4th February.—From Hongkong for San Francisco:—19,561 bags rice, 9,757 packages merchandise, 2,184 bags tapioca, 1,052 rolls matting, 900 boxes oil, 250 bales jute, 200 packages tea, 148 cases preserves, 100 bales cinnamon, 65 packages split rattan, 50 bales Saigon cassia, 32 bales rattancore and 24 bales gunnies.

The steamer *Formosa*, sailed on the 5th February. For Buenos Ayres:—470 packages tea from Foochow. For Rotterdam:—126 bales tobacco. For London:—40 half chests tea and 20 bales duck feathers from Foochow, 6 cases cigars from Manila, 248 bales canes, 5 cases electric light apparatus, 5 packages matting samples, 2 packages rattan chairs, 5 cases cigars, 1 case cylinder and 11 boxes tea (2,310 lbs. congou).

The German steamer *Senta*, sailed on the 6th February. From Hongkong for Marseilles:—25 cases staranised and 30 packages rattan furniture. For Havre:—25 boxes bristles, 78 rolls matting and 1 packages tea samples. For Havre option Hamburg:—8 bales human hair. For Havre option Hamburg option London:—800 cases camphor and 54 cases essential oil. For Hamburg:—2,200 packages tea, 250 cases camphor, 20 bales canes, 10 cases rifles, 3 packages private effects and 5 packages sundries. For Hamburg option London:—100 bales feathers and 20 cases bristles. For Bremen:—10 casks ginger.

The steamer *Myrmidon*, sailed on the 7th February. For London:—633 boxes tea (13,293 lbs. congou), 160 boxes tea, particulars unknown, 1 case silks, 52 cases essential oil, 15 cases blackwoodware, 3 cases curios, 110 cases cigars, 252 cases ginger, 251 casks ginger, 880 rolls matting, 480 bales canes, 44 tins paint, 224 packages m.o.p. shells and 9 packages sundries. For London and/or Manchester:—85 bales waste silk. For Liverpool:—500 bales hemp and 1 case cigars. For Glasgow:—200 casks ginger.

The steamer *Mirapore*, sailed on the 11th February. For London:—30 cases bristles for New York, 100 boxes tea, 2 cases blackwoodware, 2 cases cigars and 1 roll matting. For France:—225 bales raw silk and 625 packages tea from Foochow.

The steamer *Port Adelaide*, sailed on the 13th February. For New York:—5,859 rolls matting, 6,985 packages firecrackers, 93 bales rattancore, 23 packages chinaware, 20 cases essential oil, 15 bales split bamboo, 30 cases preserves and 27 packages merchandise.

The steamer *Priam*, sailed on the 14th February. For London:—140 boxes tea (no particulars), 44 boxes essential oil, 17 cases cigars, 202 cases chinaware, 21 cases blackwoodware, 40 cases bristles, 4 cases fans, 4 cases lanterns, 598 rolls matting, 8 kegs paint and 29 packages sundries. For Manchester:—1 package blankets. For Liverpool:—1 case merchandise. For Amsterdam:—7 packages sundries.

The steamer *Natal*, sailed on the 17th February. For France:—91 bales raw silk, 1 case silk piece goods, 10 cases essential oil, 7 packages effects, 100 boxes tea, 14 cases curios and 4 bales hides. For Milan:—10 bales silk. For London:—1 case silk piece goods.

### OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 24th February.—Bengal:—There has been a decline in prices during the week under review owing to the eagerness of holders to part with their drug. Latest quotations are \$682½ for New Patna, \$700 for Old Patna, \$690 for New Benares, and \$715 for Old Benares.

Malwa.—A fair amount of business has passed in this drug, and rates have undergone very little alteration. The following are the closing figures:—

New (this yr's) \$760 with allance of 1 to 1½ cts.  
 (last yr's) \$780 " 0 to 2½ "  
 Old \$800 " 0 to 2 "  
 Persian.—Superior qualities have been dealt in to a very fair extent. Prices are unaltered, latest rates being \$480 to \$560 for Oily, and \$500 to \$575 for Paper-wrapped according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—  
 New Patna..... 950 chests  
 Old Patna..... 1,330 "  
 New Benares..... 220 "  
 Old Benares..... 145 "  
 Malwa..... 880 "  
 Persian..... 710 "

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1897.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Feb. 17	700	710	705	730	760/80	800
Feb. 18	700	710	705	730	760/80	800
Feb. 19	697½	710	702½	730	760/80	800
Feb. 20	697½	707½	702½	730	760/80	800
Feb. 21	697½	707½	702½	725	760/80	800
Feb. 22	690	707½	697½	725	760/80	800
Feb. 23	687½	706½	692½	725	760/80	800

### COTTON.

HONGKONG, 24th February.—A moderate business has been put through in superior qualities at a reduction of 50 cents per picul. Stock, about 6,000 bales.

Bombay..... \$15.00 to 16.00 p. p.  
 Kurrachee..... 15.50 to 16.00 "  
 Bengal, Rangoon, and } 16.00 to 17.50 "  
 Dacca.....  
 Shanghai and Japanese. 20.00 to 20.25 "  
 Tungchow and Ningpo. 20.00 to 20.50 "  
 Madras..... 16.00 to 16.50 "  
 Sales: 1,000 bales Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca.

### RICE.

HONGKONG, 24th February.—The market has been brisk and prices are advancing. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary..... \$2.24 to 2.27  
 Round, good quality..... 2.45 to 2.47  
 Long..... 2.66 to 2.70  
 Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2..... 2.80 to 2.83  
 Garden, " No. 1..... 2.75 to 2.78  
 White..... 2.75 to 2.78  
 Fine Cargo..... 2.75 to 2.78

### COALS.

HONGKONG, 23rd February.—Market active. Quotations are:—

Cardiff..... \$16.50 to 16.50 ex ship  
 Australian..... 6.50 to 6.75 ex ship  
 Milke Lump..... 6.00 to 6.50 ex ship  
 Milke Small..... 5.00 to 5.25 ex ship  
 Moji Lump..... 6.00 to 6.50 ex ship



## MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

Hongkong, 24th February.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

**YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn.**—25 bales No. 8 at \$77.50, 765 bales No. 10 at \$79.50 to \$83, 665 bales No. 12 at \$81 to \$88, 145 bales No. 16 at \$93 to \$95, 755 bales No. 20 at \$94.50 to \$104. **Grey Shirtings.**—900 pieces 9½ lbs. Blue Fish at \$2.40, 700 pieces 7 lbs. Large Eagle at \$1.96, 300 pieces 8½ lbs. 3 Dogs at \$2.92, 250 pieces 10 lbs. Mandarin at \$3.65. **White Shirtings.**—250 pieces X. 7 at \$3.77½, 450 pieces Gold Tiger at \$5.85, 2,000 No. 300 at \$3.45, 750 pieces D. 70 at \$3.45, 250 pieces Black Peach at \$2.17½. **Drills.**—150 pieces 15 lbs. Peacock at \$3.77½.

**Metals.**—Tin.—200 slabs Fungchai at \$32.

## COTTON YARN.

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20	.....\$77.00 to 110.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24	.....100.00 to 105.00
" 22 to 24	.....107.00 to 112.00
" 28 to 32	.....117.00 to 123.00
" 38 to 42	.....124.00 to 134.00

## COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece
Gray Shirtings—6lbs. ....	1.40 to 1.55
7lbs. ....	1.85 to 2.05
8.4 lbs. ....	2.00 to 2.00
9 to 10 lbs. ....	3.20 to 4.00
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. ....	2.15 to 2.35
58 to 60 " ....	2.50 to 3.10
64 to 66 " ....	3.00 to 3.50
Fine ....	3.90 to 6.90
Book-folds. ....	3.20 to 5.40
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	0.60 to 1.25
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y. ....	1.40 to 1.55
7lbs. (32 " ) ....	1.80 to 2.95
6lbs. (32 " ) Mexs. ....	1.60 to 1.75
7lbs. (32 " ) ....	2.25 to 2.70
8 to 8½lbs. (36 in.) ....	2.35 to 3.20
Drills, English—40 yds. 18½ to 14lbs. ....	4.00 to 5.00

## FAVOR COTTONS

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5lbs. ....	1.20 to 3.50
Brocades—Dyed ....	3.75 to 4.50
per yard	
Damasks ....	0.11 to 0.18
Chintzes—Assorted ....	3.07 to 0.10
Velvets—Black, 22 in. ....	0.20 to 0.28
Velveteens—18 in. ....	0.16 to 0.20
per dozen	
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk ....	0.40 to 0.85

## WOOLLENS

	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. ....	0.55 to 0.95
German ....	1.00 to 1.15
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths. ....	1.25 to 3.50

	per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet ....	6.50 to 8.00
Assorted ....	6.60 to 8.10
Camlets—Assorted ....	19.00 to 27.00
Lastings—80 yds., 31 inches, Assorted ....	10.00 to 16.00
Orleans—Plain ....	8.00 to 8.60

	per pair
Blankets—8 to 12lbs. ....	4.80 to 9.50

## METALS

	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod ....	3.50 to 3.60
Square, Flat Round Bar ...	3.50 to 3.60
Swedish Bar ....	5.47½ to —
Small Round Rod ....	4.40 to —
Hoop ....	— to —
Old Wire Rope ....	— to —
Lead, L. B. and Hole Chop ...	7.30 to 7.40
Yellow M'tal—Muntz, 14/28 oz. ....	30.00 to —
Vivian's, 16/32 oz. ....	28.00 to —
Elliot's, 16/28 oz. ....	27.50 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs ....	— to —
Tiles ....	— to —
Tin ....	— to —

	per box.
Tin-Plates ....	5.85 to —
	per cwt. case
Steel ....	4.40 to —

## GUMMIES

	per picul
Quicksilver ....	115.00 to —
	per box
Window Glass ....	3.85 to —
	per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil ....	1.91 to 1.93

Shanghai, 18th February.—(From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report).—Piece Goods.—Since the issue of our last circular business has been done on a very small scale and the sales published would indicate that there is scarcely any market at all. The little that has been done, however, shows that prices here are

steady and from what one is able to infer from the position, dealers still adhere to their previous convictions that stocks in the interior are below requirements and that prices here, if only on that account alone, will not be allowed to decline. There are several conflicting elements that preclude holders and importers from accepting this theory, the principal being the Indian Famine and the bubonic plague now raging in Bombay. These are the natural course of affairs ought, and no doubt will, affect the Indian demand in Manchester who, in turn, as orders are run out, may appeal to this market to take off their supplies even if they have to accept lower prices. Here again, however, the Chinese step in with their peculiar methods of thinking and apparently the position offers to them no serious difficulties, their argument being that with the reduced import of Indian spinnings natives cannot manufacture the same amount of cloth, and that the consumers must, of necessity, buy the manufactured goods.

There is scarcely any news from the various outports, the only one showing any vitality being Hankow, which in a general way has taken a fair quantity of goods. It is said that advices from the other outports have been much interfered with by the new postal arrangements, and this may be true, as it no doubt has upset the old traditional system of doing business, but as old ways must give way to new, matters will adjust themselves sooner or later.

**Metals.**—(From Messrs. Alex. Biefield & Co.'s Report, 18th February).—During the past week, though business has resumed after the New Year, but few transactions have been concluded. Traders are mostly awaiting advices from the North, and the opening of the ice bound ports. Importers are more anxious to have old stocks cleared, and to deliver the old orders, than to books new ones; but few contracts from home have been closed. Until stocks have been reduced considerably, we can expect this to be the rule. A few contracts in Old Iron from stock have been concluded, aggregating several hundred tons, at varying prices. The Chinese are eager to buy at present rates. There have been a few inquiries for New Iron, but no closures have transpired. 130 tons Boiler Tubes at Tls. 1.65, 45 tons Cobble at Tls. 2.20, 40 tons Cobble at Tls. 1.90, 50 tons Cart Tyres at £92; c.i.f., 150 tons Horse-shoes at Tls. 1.91, 100 tons Nailrods at Tls. 2.60, 30 Old Round Iron at Tls. 2.20, 150 tons Glasgow and Liverpool Horse-shoes at 92/6, c.i.f., 100 tons Boiler Plates at 82/6, c.i.f.

## CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

WEDNESDAY, 24th February.  
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/1½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/1½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/1½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/1½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/1½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/1½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.64
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.68
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.14
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	51½
Credits, 60 days' sight	52½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	166
Bank, on demand	166½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	166
Bank, on demand	166½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	½% pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	8% pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	½% pm.
SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate	9.39
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	48.90

## JOINT STOCK SHARES

HONGKONG, February 24th.—Although the Race holidays interfered with business to a considerable extent a fair amount has been transacted and rates generally, with very few exceptions, show a further substantial advance, notably in Docks, Steamboats, and Sugars. The market closes somewhat quiet all round.

**BANKS.**—Hongkong and Shanghai have been negotiated in small lots at 175 per cent. prem. cash and at 175½ per cent. prem. delivery 28th instant, also in a small way at equivalent rates for March and June, market closing quiet at 175. Nationals have changed hands at quotation; the report just issued recommends the payment of a dividend of 2/6 per share, placing \$12,000 to reserve and carrying forward \$2,599.92. Bank of China continue out of the market, with no demand at quotations except for preferences.

**MARINE INSURANCE.**—China Traders have changed hands at \$79 and \$79½, closing with small buyers at the latter rate and sellers at \$80. Unions have ruled somewhat easier with sellers at quotation and only small sales. Cantons have found buyers at \$187½ and close with small sellers at the rate. The Northern Insurance have changed hands in Shanghai at quotations and Straits have remained dull at \$23½ with few if any transactions.

**FIRE INSURANCE.**—Hongkong Fires continuing in demand the rate gradually rose to \$400, after sales at \$395 and \$397½; at time of writing the market is easier with sellers at \$400 and no buyers. Chinas Fires have again recovered with sales at \$111, \$112, \$113, and \$114 cash cum. and at \$108 ex div. paid on the 21st instant; the market is quiet at time of closing with a few shares on offer at \$109 for cash and at \$110 for March.

**SHIPPING.**—With the exception of Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboats, the market has ruled quiet to weak, and no business of any importance is reported. Hongkong, Canton, and Macao continuing in demand large sales were effected at \$33½, \$34, \$34½, and \$34½ for cash, and at \$34½ and 35 for March. At the time of closing a few shares are obtainable at \$34½. The long delayed opening of the West River to foreign trade has at length been granted and will take place on the 1st June next. China and Manilas have found buyers at \$68 and \$69, and Indo-Chinas have changed hands at \$47, closing with sellers. China Mutual preferences continue in a small demand at \$7 without bringing out sellers, whilst ordinaries are on offer at quotations.

**REFINERIES.**—China Sugars have experienced a little boom with a fairly large business at \$143, \$144, \$145, \$146, and \$147 for cash, and at the equivalents of the higher rates for March, April, and June, the market closing quieter at \$146. Luzons continue out of the market, neglected.

**MINING.**—Punjoms, continuing the improvement reported in last circular, have gradually crept back again to \$10½ with small sales at that, \$10.99½, and \$9½ cash, and at equivalent rates forward to June; market closes steady at \$10½. Raubs have been very quiet, but steady at \$12 with only small sales. The Mining Manager's report for January appears in the Daily Press of the 23rd instant and shows satisfactory progress and prospects. New Balmorals and Olivers continue quiet with little or no business at quotations. Jelebus after sales at \$2.35 and \$2.50 close with buyers at latter rate. Charbonnages continue entirely out of the market.

**DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.**—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue on the boom and have ruled in strong demand during the week; sales have been effected at from 238 and 246 per cent. prem. cum dividend and at from 234 to 237 per cent. prem. ex div. and bonus of 12 per cent. prem. paid on the 22nd inst. On time a considerable number of shares have changed hands at from 240 to 248 per cent. prem. for March, 248 to 252 for June, and from 240 to 255 for August, all cum dividend. At time of closing the market is quieter with no buyers over 234 ex div. for cash and at equivalent rates forward. The Chairman's speech at the half yearly meeting held on the 21st inst., reported in the local papers, is of exceptional interest and gives much satisfactory information to shareholders. Kowloon Wharves continued in demand during the early part of the week at \$59½, but sellers at \$60 could not find buyers, and the demand even at \$59½ seemed gradually to subside. Closing quotation is \$58 ex div. The published report for the half year ending 30th June shows an improvement on the previous six months working, and



gives hopes of better results for the future. Wanchai continues dull and neglected at quotation.

**LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.**—Hongkong Lands have remained quiet and inactive with small sales at \$77, at which rate further small lots could be placed. Humphreys Estates have been on offer at \$92 cum div., leading to a small business. Kowloon Lands have been enquired for at \$15 and West Point have changed hands at \$20. Hotels have been somewhat neglected, although offers of \$39 are reported to have been made and refused; the report just published shows result about equal to the corresponding period of 1895; it recommends the payment of no dividend, but writing off \$7,000; it shows that a sum of \$4,984.22 has been spent on renewals and repairs out of earnings; at time of closing shares are on offer at \$38.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**—Green Islands have changed hands at \$22. Watsons at \$12½ and \$12½. Electrics at \$8.10. Ropes at \$158 and \$160. Fenwicks at \$32½, \$32½, and \$33. Tramways continue in request at \$95. Ices have ruled quiet at \$108 with sellers and no sales, and Ewos have changed hands at Tls. 85.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
<b>Banks—</b>		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	175 % prem. =
China & Japan, prf.	\$5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	\$1 10s.	nominal
Do. deferred...	\$1	\$5, buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares .....	\$8	\$26½, sellers
Founders Shares...	\$1	\$100, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	15s.	\$8, buyers
Brown & Co., H. G. ...	\$50	(in liquidation).
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$7, buyers
Carmichael & Co. ....	\$20	\$8
China Sugar .....	\$100	\$146, sellers
Dakin, Cruick's & Co.	\$5	(in liquidation).
Dairy Farm Co. ....	\$5	\$5, nominal
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ...	\$25	\$33, sellers & buyers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$22, sellers
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$30
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	\$10	\$110, buyers
Hongkong Electric ...	\$8	\$8.10, sal. & sellers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$85, buyers
Hongkong Hotel .....	\$50	\$38, sellers
Hongkong Ice .....	\$25	\$108, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G. ...	\$50	\$58, ex div. buyers
Hongkong Rope .....	\$50	\$160, sales & buyers
H. & W. Dock .....	\$125	234 p. ct. prem. =
<b>Insurances—</b>		
Canton .....	\$50	\$187½, sal. & sellers
China Fire .....	\$20	\$108, ex d. sal. & b.
China Traders' .....	\$25	\$79, buyers
Hongkong Fire .....	\$50	\$400, sales & sellers
North-China .....	\$25	Tls. 195, sellers
Straits .....	\$20	\$28½, sales & sellers
Union .....	\$25	\$237½, sellers
Yangtze .....	\$60	\$160, sales
<b>Land and Building—</b>		
H. Land Investment...	\$50	\$76½, sales & buyers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$9, ex div.
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$15, buyers
West Point Building	\$40	\$20, sellers
Luzon Sugar .....	\$100	\$50, sellers
<b>Mining—</b>		
Charbonnages .....	Fcs. 500	75, sales
Jebeu .....	\$5	\$2.50, sales & buyers
New Balmoral .....	\$3	nominal.
Oliver's Mines, A. ...	\$5	\$5, sales
Do. B. ...	\$2½	\$2½
Punjom .....	\$4	\$10½, sales & sellers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$3
Raubs .....	13s. 10d.	\$12, sellers
<b>Steamship Coys.—</b>		
China and Manila ...	\$50	\$69, sales
China Mutual Ord...	\$5	\$2 10s. sellers
Do. Preference...	\$10	\$6
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$50	\$61½, sellers
H. Canton and M. ...	\$15	\$34½, sales & sellers
Indo-China S. N. ...	\$10	\$47, sales & sellers
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$43½
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$12½, sales & sellers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

**SHANGHAI, 19th February.**—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report.)—A fair volume of business was done during the week, and prices were well maintained. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Cash shares have changed hands at 175 per cent premium, ex dividend, and sales were made to Hongkong early in the week at 184 for cash and 185 for the 27th current, cum dividend. A sale to Hongkong at 175 per cent premium, and exchange 72½ is reported to-day. There is no change in other Bank shares. Marine

Insurance.—North-Chinas were sold at Tls. 195 and are offering. Yangtzes have been sold at \$160 for February, \$161 for 20th March, and \$162½ for 31st March, at which there are sellers at the close. Cantons are quoted steady at \$175 in Hongkong. Straits have been placed at \$28½ locally, and from Hongkong, and at \$29.75 for 31st March. Fire Insurance.—Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd. Shares were placed to Hongkong at \$390 and \$395, and more are wanted. Chinas have been sold at \$107 ex div., and are wanted. Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares are wanted at \$32½, but are held for higher rates.—Indo-China S. N. shares have been sold at Tls. 34 for cash, Tls. 34½ for February, Tls. 35 for March, and Tls. 36 for both April and May. Shares are offering both cash and for March. China Mutual ordinary shares, with 25 paid up, were sold at Tls. 17½ and are wanted. Sugar.—China Sugar Refining shares have been placed at \$140, \$143½, \$145/146, and \$144/145 for cash, and to Hongkong at \$140/141, for February at \$145, and \$147½/148 for March. Luzon Sugar Refining shares are weak with sellers at \$50. Mining.—Raub Australian Gold Mining shares have been placed at \$11 cum dividend of 1/0 per share. Sheridan Mining shares are wanted at Tls. 3. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—S. C. Farnham & Co. shares have been changing hands at Tls. 185 cash, Tls. 187 for April, and Tls. 193 for June. Shipbuilding shares, with Tls. 50 paid up, have been sold at Tls. 45. Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf shares have been placed at Tls. 122½. Lands.—Shanghai Lands Investment Co. shares have been placed at Tls. 90 ex dividend, cum right to the new issue, which the Directors propose to allot at 40 per cent premium. Kowloon Land and Building Co., Ltd. Shares have changed hands to a limited extent at \$16. Industrial.—Shanghai Gas shares have been placed, for March, at Tls. 220. In Cotton shares, Ewos have been placed, and are wanted, at Tls. 85, and there are buyers. Internationals at Tls. 89, and Laou-Kung-Mows at Tls. 90. Rice Mill shares changed hands at Tls. 20 cum dividend of 6 per cent, and China Flour Mill shares, fully paid up, were parted with at Tls. 40, and are wanted. Miscellaneous.—In Tobacco shares, Sumatras have been in strong demand, on account of the Directors proposing to increase the capital to \$500,000 and to issue one new share, without cost, in respect of each of the 6,500 shares now issued. Shares have been placed at Tls. 142½ to Tls. 157½ cash, Tls. 150 to Tls. 162½ for March, Tls. 160 for both April and May. Tls. 150 to Tls. 162½ for June, and Tls. 170 for August. In Langkats the cash market opened at Tls. 475, and declined to Tls. 410, but recovered to Tls. 425, Tls. 450, Tls. 460, and Tls. 480 for cash, Tls. 480 for March, Tls. 475/550 for April, Tls. 550 for May, and Tls. 600 for both August and December. We quote Tls. 480 as the closing cash rate, at which a few shares are offering.

#### TONNAGE.

**HONGKONG, 23rd February.**—During the past fortnight there has been an increased demand for steam tonnage and rates all round show an improvement.

From Saigon to Hongkong the market closes firm at 13 cents per picul for medium-sized carriers. To Java, there has been an increased demand, and rates are strong at 25 cents per picul with prospect of 28 cents per picul.

Bangkok to Hongkong steamers are wanted at 17½ cents inside or 12½ outside the bar. There is also a demand for Singapore at same rates.

A steamer has been fixed to load Newchwang to Canton at 25 cents per picul to be ready to load at the opening of the port. At the moment there is no further demand at this rate.

Coal freights from Japan have materially improved, tonnage being particularly scarce; last settlement to Hongkong was \$1.60 per ton; a further rise of 10 cents per ton would no doubt now be paid. To Singapore no settlements have been reported, and the rate may be quoted at about \$2.60 per ton.

Sail tonnage there is no demand. The British ship *Queen Victoria*, 1,587 tons register, and the German ship *Rickmer Rickmers*, 1,914 tons register, have received orders from owner, the former to proceed to Manila and the latter to Saigon.

There are three vessels disengaged in port, registering 4,983 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

*Chloma*—American barque, 814 tons, Hongkong to Singapore, \$3,500 U.S. gold.

A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, *Newchwang* to Canton, 25 cents per picul.

*Obi*—British steamer, 1,950 tons, Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, \$1.10 per ton.

*Produce*—Norwegian steamer, 1,002 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.40 per ton.

*Doris*—German steamer, 817 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.60 per ton.

*Amoy*—German steamer, 792 tons, Moji to one port, Japan, 21 cents, if two ports 24 cents per picul.

*Sullberg*—German steamer, 782 tons, Moji to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.

*Hunda*—British steamer, 1,158 tons, Saigon to one port North Coast Java, 21 cents per picul; if two ports North Coast Java, 22 cents per picul.

*Puoting*—British steamer, 1,088 tons, Saigon to one port North Coast Java, 21 cents per picul; if two ports North Coast Java, 22 cents per picul.

A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Saigon to one port North Coast Java, 22 cents per picul; if two ports North Coast Java, 23 cents per picul.

*Jacob Christiansen*—Norwegian steamer, 1,388 tons, Saigon to one port North Coast Java, 25 cents per picul.

*Amigo*—German steamer, 802 tons, Saigon to one port North Coast Java, 25 cents per picul; if two ports North Coast Java, 26 cents per picul; option Singapore, 14 cents per picul.

*Vela*—German steamer, 636 tons, Saigon to Kobe, 21 cents per picul.

*Toyamaru*—Japanese steamer, 1,543 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11 cents per picul.

*Independent*—German steamer, 1,003 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11 cents per picul.

*Sishan*—British steamer, 897 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.

*Kiotomaru*—Japanese steamer, 1,666 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 10½ cents per picul.

*Amara*—British steamer, 1,566 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11½ cents per picul.

*Ingraben*—German steamer, 894 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12½ cents per picul.

*Decima*—German steamer, 1,151 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12½ cents per picul.

*Germania*—German steamer, 1,775 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12½ cents per picul.

*Tamarind*—Norwegian steamer, 885 tons, monthly, 3/3 months, \$4,250 per month.

*Decima*—German steamer, 1,151 tons, monthly, 4/4 months, \$4,300 per month.

*Produce*—Norwegian steamer, 1,002 tons, monthly, 3/3 months, \$4,500 per month.

*Vulcan*—Norwegian steamer, 954 tons, monthly, 3/3 months, \$3,500 per month.

#### VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Ningchow* (str.), *Java* (str.), *Prometheus* (str.), *Canton* (str.), *Balmoral* (str.), *Glamorganshire* (str.).

For HAVRE.—*Nerite* (str.).

For MARSEILLES.—*Caledonien* (str.).

For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of Japan* (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Sumbawa*, *City of Rio de Janeiro*, *Coloma* (s.r.), *Gaelic* (str.), *Falls of Dee*.

For BREMEN.—*Preussen* (str.).

For NEW YORK.—*Benjamin Sewall*.

For AUSTRALIA.—*Airlie* (str.), *Tokio-Maru* (str.), *Taiyuan* (str.).

#### SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST

MAIL.

HONGKONG.

February—ARRIVALS.

- 17, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
- 17, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 17, Kwongang, British str., from Cebu.
- 17, Amara, British str., from Moji.
- 17, Germania, German str., from Samarang.
- 17, Mathilde, German str., from Haiphong.
- 17, Niobe, German str., from Kobe.
- 17, Ningchow, British str., from London.
- 18, Taisang, British str., from Canton.
- 18, Kalgan, British str., from Canton.
- 18, Sikh, British str., from London.
- 18, Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.
- 18, Hong Leong, British str., from Singapore.
- 18, Loosok, British str., from Bangkok.
- 18, Braemar, British str., from Tacoma.
- 19, Melbourne, French str., from Marseilles.
- 19, Ixion, British str., from Liverpool.
- 19, Dante, German str., from Saigon.
- 19, Ydensang, British str., from Manila.
- 19, Quarta, German str., from Moji.
- 19, Kongsee, British str., from Singapore.
- 19, Kweilin, British str., from Canton.
- 19, City of Rio de Janeiro, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
- 19, Hydaspes, British str., from Bombay.
- 19, Phra Chom Klao, Brit. str., from Bangkok.
- 19, Anping, Chinese str., from Glasgow.
- 20, Sullberg, German str., from Moji.
- 20, Pakahan, British str., from Singapore.



20, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.  
 20, Chingping, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
 20, Glenfalloch, British str., from Singapore.  
 20, Ingraban, German str., from Saigon.  
 20, Irene, German str., from Hamburg.  
 20, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
 20, Oslo, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.  
 20, Taiwan, British str., from Shanghai.  
 21, Breconshire, British str., from Cardiff.  
 21, Bullmouth, British str., from Shanghai.  
 21, Emerald, British str., from Manila.  
 21, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.  
 21, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.  
 21, Kaiser-i-Hind, British str., from Bombay.  
 21, Kutsang, British str., from Calcutta.  
 21, Swatow, German str., from Iloilo.  
 21, Taksang, British str., from Canton.  
 21, Tam O'Shanter, Amr. ship, from N. York.  
 22, Taicheong, German str., from Deli.  
 22, Marie Valerie, Austrian str., from Trieste.  
 22, Hupeh, British str., from Java.  
 22, Dardanus, British str., from Liverpool.  
 22, Verona, British str., from Yokohama.  
 22, Menmuir, British str., from Sydney.  
 23, Ravenna, British str., from Shanghai.  
 23, Siam, British str., from Bangkok.  
 23, Empress of Japan, Brit. str., from V'couver.  
 23, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.  
 23, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., from K'notau.  
 23, Namoa, British str., from Coast Ports.  
 23, Canton, British str., from Kutchinotau.  
 23, Daphne, German str., from Hongay.  
 23, Kiangpak, Chinese str., from Hankow.  
 23, Fushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
 23, Siegfried, German str., from Newcastle.  
 23, Prosper, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.  
 24, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.  
 24, Airlie, British str., from Kobe.  
 24, Decima, German str., from Moji.  
 24, Enargia, British str., from Shanghai.  
 24, Phra Chom Klao, British str., from B'kok.  
 24, Taiwan, British str., from Canton.  
 24, Chusan, German str., from Moji.  
 24, Chihli, British str., from Chinkiang.

February—  
 17, Kweiyang, British str., for Canton.  
 17, Ask, Danish str., for Nagasaki.  
 17, Bonvenue, British str., for Nagasaki.  
 17, Chowfa, British str., for Bangkok.  
 17, Empress of India, Brit. str., for V'couver.  
 17, Hongkong, Fren. str., for Haiphong.  
 17, Miike Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.  
 17, Natal, French str., for Europe.  
 18, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.  
 18, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.  
 18, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.  
 18, Chingtu, British str., for Australia.  
 19, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.  
 19, Sakura Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.  
 19, Hong Leong, British str., for Amoy.  
 19, Kalgan, British str., for Foochow.  
 19, Melbourne, French str., for Shanghai.  
 19, Monmouthshire, British str., for Moji.  
 19, Talsang, British str., for Shanghai.  
 19, Pigmy, British g-bt., for Bangkok.  
 20, Paoting, British str., for Saigon.  
 20, Cormoran, German cruiser, for Amoy.  
 20, Albingia, German str., for Saigon.  
 20, Mathilde, German str., for Haiphong.  
 20, Ixion, British str., for Shanghai.  
 20, Kweilin, British str., for Iloilo.  
 20, Lightning, British str., for Calcutta.  
 20, Sikh, British str., for Shanghai.  
 20, Tailee, German str., for Swatow.  
 20, Taiyuan, British str., for Kobe.  
 20, Aeolus, British cruiser, for Singapore.  
 21, Detroit, Amr. cruiser, for Bangkok.  
 21, Amara, British str., for Saigon.  
 21, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.  
 21, Kongsee, British str., for Kobe.  
 21, Kwongang, British str., for Swatow.  
 21, Ningchow, British str., for Shanghai.  
 21, Niobe, German str., for Hamburg.  
 21, Pakahan, British str., for Swatow.  
 21, Tamarind, Norw. str., for Bangkok.  
 22, Taiwan, British str., for Canton.  
 22, Kaiser, German flagship, for Amoy.  
 22, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.  
 22, Breconshire, British str., for Nagasaki.  
 22, Chingping, Chinese str., for Canton.  
 22, Fausang, British str., for Calcutta.  
 22, Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.  
 22, Kaiser-i-Hind, British str., for Shanghai.  
 22, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
 23, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.  
 23, Dante, German str., for Saigon.  
 23, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.

23, Marie Valerie, Aust. str., for Shanghai.  
 23, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.  
 24, Braemar, British str., for Tacoma.  
 24, Coptic, British str., for San Francisco.  
 24, Dardanus, British str., for Shanghai.  
 24, Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
 24, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.  
 24, Ingraban, German str., for Saigon.  
 24, Irene, German str., for Yokohama.  
 24, Strathallan, British str., for Hongay.  
 24, Zabiaka, Russian cruiser, for Nagasaki.  
 24, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.  
 24, Loosok, British str., for Bangkok.  
 24, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.  
 24, Phra Chom Klao, British str., for Swatow.  
 24, Sullberg, German str., for Iloilo.  
 24, Taiwan, British str., for Swatow.  
 24, Taksang, British str., for Tientsin.

## PASSENGER LIST.

## ARRIVED.

Per *Haitan*, str., from Coast Ports.—Messrs. Leong Teu Alum and Leyburn, Mrs. May, Miss May, Miss Craig, Capt. Mrs. and Miss Schneider, and Rev. G. E. Whitman.

Per *Strathallan*, str., from Hongkong—Mr. Leroux.

Per *Formosa*, str., from Tamsui, &c.—Messrs. H. Cass, W. H. Wallace, R. H. Bruce and A. Pietal.

Per *Loosok*, str., from Bangkok—Capt. F. K. Fair and Dr. G. E. Morrison.

Per *Melbourne*, str., from Marseilles, &c.—Messrs. Brewitt Taylor, C. D. Jones, Charles Tritz, F. D. Mactaggart, J. D. Ross, K. Obagashi, and Chambareau, and Rev. Marmand.

Per *City of Rio de Janeiro*, str., from San Francisco, &c.—Miss Edith Benham, Mr. Geo. B. Swayne, Mrs. J. M. Gurdes, Messrs. J. B. Roza and H. Platten.

Per *Anping*, str., from Glasgow, &c.—Miss War, Mrs. Sondsteid and Mrs. Stewart.

Per *Haimun*, steamer, from Coast Ports.—Mr. W. M. Paton.

Per *Taiwan*, str., from Shanghai—Mrs. Lyon and 3 daughters.

Per *Emeralda*, str., from Manila—Mr. W. A. Main, Mrs. Maria Elia Roxas, Misses Roxas (3), Masters Roxas (3).

Per *Hanoi*, str., from Haiphong, &c.—Messrs. Joret and Delapole.

Per *Kaiser-i-Hind*, str., for Hongkong from London—Mr. Higginbotham, Comd. A. H. S. Dorrien, Comd. Murray Parkes, Mr. J. P. Wingate, Mr. and Mrs. Buckland, Mr. R. H. Wright, Miss Crumpe, Miss Belt. From Brindisi—Mrs. Skelton, Mrs. Jeffrey, Mr. W. H. Wickham, Mrs. and Miss Hunter, Master Hunter, Mr. J. D. Smart. From Bombay—Mr. R. W. Playfair, Mr. and Mrs. Torrest. From Colombo—Mr. F. F. Roper, Gunner Brighton. From Singapore—Sub-Lieut. Grant Duff, Mr. W. E. Roberts, Mrs. Hardy, Mr. Ou Cheung Man. For Yokohama from London—Messrs. Greenald, H. M. Araola, J. W. Blundell, A. M. Sutton, E. C. Morris, and Maynard. From Malta—Mr. R. H. Wright. For Kobe from Singapore—Mr. and Miss Alexander, Miss Wilson. For Nagasaki from London—Mr. and Mrs. Smith and 2 children. For Shanghai from London—Mr. James Rust, Captain Smale, Messrs. D. Macfarlane, H. Thomas, G. Hancock, W. H. Earley, J. Partington, F. Hunter, P. McCann, Maxwell, Theo. Wong, Chamberlain, Miss Chamberlain, Miss Brodie. From Brindisi—Mr. and Mrs. James Jones, Mrs. Eadie, Mr. Edgar Allen. From Bombay—Messrs. Eadie, R. Johnston, and W. H. Marks. From Singapore—Mr. R. J. W. Wright.

Per *Marie Valerie*, str., from Trieste, &c.—Dr. Neustadth and Mr. G. Hoy.

Per *Verona*, str., for Hongkong from Yokohama—Messrs. Y. Todoroki, S. Corke, R. Quinn, W. J. Beer, P. Hayes, A. Gibson, G. New, and J. Manley. From Nagasaki—Messrs. Ah Hon, Man Loong, and M. Harrigan. From Nagasaki for London—Mr. Cook. For Calcutta—Mr. E. E. Smith.

Per *Menmuir*, steamer, from Sydney, &c.—Mrs. Neald, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Hilson, Count Lepeany, Mr. and Mrs. Macken, Miss Macken and Mr. W. Kenney.

Per *Namoa*, str., from Coast Ports—Ray and Mrs. Wales, Messrs. Clayton, Sprouts and Yoshinuye.

Per *Empress of Japan*, str., from Vancouver, &c.—Mr. E. A. Mathieson, Miss Mathieson, Miss M. Mathieson, Mr. P. Kohnopeyer, Prof. E. H. Sharp, Mr. K. Matsumoto, and Mrs. Nebekura.

Per *Ravenna*, str., from Shanghai for London—Messrs. W. J. Clarke, E. D. Baines, T. N. Hayward, Hayward, Master Hayward and infant, Mr. M. Hardman, Mrs. Hardman and 2 children, Master Wilfred King, Master Louis King, Mrs. E. T. Cooper and infant, Miss Amy Cooper, Miss Annie Pearce, Miss E. M. S. Anderson, Mrs. Cameron, Miss D. Cameron, Miss Elsie Rendell, Master Geo. Rendell, and Mr. Joseph Poling.

## DEPARTED.

Per *Thales*, str., for Amoy—Mr. Oldham.

Per *Omi Maru*, str., for Australian Ports—Mrs. Goodhills, Mrs. Sam, Mrs. Nagata, Messrs. Sommers Brown, O. C. Kang, and K. Hara.

Per *Natal*, str., from Hongkong for Saigon—Rev. Desseume. For Singapore—Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Noronha, Messrs. J. P. Braga, Freiman, Arstingstall, and Rev. Rivet. For Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Horta e Costa, Mr. and Mrs. W. Schneider, Miss Schneider, Messrs. M. F. de Menezes, A. Desrayaudle, and J. Jackson. For Saigon from Shanghai—Mrs. Zedelius and infant, and Mr. Simonoff. For Singapore from Shanghai—Mr. G. Shekury's amah and infant, Messrs. Schenoldin, Petterson, E. Thors, H. Anderson, and M. Edlelund. From Kobe—Mr. Rosenbach. For Batavia from Yokohama—Mr. G. Trenisi. For Suez from Shanghai—Mr. Clarence Cary. For Marseilles from Shanghai—Messrs. A. Savarsine, H. Smith, Yee Wing Cheong, and Morin Auguste. From Kobe—Messrs. L. Mattaldi, J. Stomi, and Trucco.

Per *Empress of India*, str., for Shanghai—Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, Capt. K. Campbell, Messrs. W. Whitley, J. P. Rodier, P. C. Hanson, and F. E. Bliss. For Kobe—Miss E. Divers. For Yokohama—Miss Scidmore, Miss Hunter, Messrs. J. C. and A. W. Swanson. For Vancouver, B.C.—General and Mrs. Washburn, Misses Washburn (2), Mr. W. J. Morse. For Tacoma—Miss Campbell. For London—Mr. Denny, Miss Serena, Messrs. F. Fanshawe, J. Campbell Thomson, J. P. Cochrane. From Shanghai for Seattle—Mr. C. E. Richardson. For London—Mr. Basse. From Yokohama for London—Mr. Carns.

Per *Melbourne*, str., for Shanghai—Mrs. and Miss Gorham, Sisters Estella Waest and F. Wong, Messrs. A. P. MacEwen, C. E. Cummings and H. Feinlicht. For Kobe—Messrs. L. Rossi and T. Rossi. For Yokohama—Messrs. L. K. Smith, J. W. Skelhorn and A. Cheong.

Per *Lightning*, str., for Singapore—Mr. A. J. Reed, Mrs. Ho Lai Kin, Mrs. Chan Tai Kum, Mrs. Chan Tsat Mooy, Mrs. Yeung Kun, Capt. Halstead, and Mr. Okayama. For Calcutta—Lieut. Atkinson and Mr. C. S. Addis.

Per *Hailoong*, str., for Swatow—Mr. R. Courtney. For Amoy—Miss Benham and Mr. Howaldt.

Per *Kaiser-i-Hind*, str., from Hongkong for Shanghai—Messrs. S. Reynell, Ross, and W. S. Roberts. For Kobe—Mr. R. H. Wright. For Shanghai from London—Mr. James Rust, Capt. Smale, Messrs. D. Macfarlane, H. Thomas, G. Hancock, W. H. Earley, J. Partington, F. Hunter, P. McCann, Maxwell, Theo. Wong, Miss Chamberlain, Miss Brodie. From Brindisi—Mr. and Mrs. James Jones, Mrs. Eadie, and Mr. Edgar Allen. From Bombay—Messrs. R. Johnston, Eadie, and W. H. Marks. From Singapore—Mr. R. J. W. Wright.

Per *Loongmoon*, str., for Shanghai—Messrs. Ho Kom-long, and E. Stavenhagen.

Per *Yuensang*, str., for Manila—Messrs. Allison, Higginbotham, and Vincent.

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